

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. XLIII.]

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 1906.

No. 4.

### CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c. ....	65
Leading Articles:—	
The Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Po Leung Kuk .....	66
Sir Nicholas O'Connor and His Lack of Information .....	66
Australia and Japan .....	67
Riding on the Wongneichong Recreation Ground .....	67
A Whitewashing By-Law .....	68
The Mekong Settlement .....	68
The Departure of Sir Fielding Clarke .....	68
Reviews:—	
The Rights of Aliens in Hongkong .....	68
Sketches of Tokyo Life .....	68
My Holidays in China .....	69
Reported Cession of Lappa to Germany .....	69
The Mekong Settlement .....	69
The Departure of the Chief Justice .....	69
The Po Leung Kuk Society's New Home .....	69
Formosa .....	71
Supreme Court:—	
Forgery .....	71
Not Guilty .....	71
Hongkong Sanitary Board .....	71
The Charge against Mr. Mannors .....	72
Insulting Language in the Police Court .....	72
Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Limited .....	72
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited .....	72
Crickets .....	73
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club .....	73
Football .....	74
Raub Gold .....	74
Correspondence:—	
The New Balmoral Mining Co., Limited .....	74
Accident at the Mosque .....	74
Proposed New Road from Victoria Gap to Mount Kellett Ridge .....	74
The Chinese Chamber of Commerce .....	75
The Shanghai-Szechow Railway .....	75
The Japanese Budget for 1906 .....	75
The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce .....	75
Hongkong and Port News .....	76
Commercial .....	77
Shipping .....	80

### MARRIAGES.

On the 16th instant, at St. Joseph's Church, and afterwards at the Union Church, ISABEL MATILDA KLINCK, eldest daughter of CHAS. KLINCK, to JOHN FORDYCE MESSER, Captain of Messrs. Bradley & Co.'s steamer *Siam*. [222]

On the 11th inst., at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine, KEITH FENTON CRAWFORD to NINA EVELYN TOWNLEY.

### DEATHS.

On the 3rd January, at No. 1, Nishi Suga-cho, Nezu, Hongo-ku, Tokyo, Mrs. A. V. R. EASTLAKE, in her sixty-third year.

On the 10th January, at No. 261, Bluff, Yokohama, DOROTHEA LENA, infant daughter of ALFRED and LENA DARE.

On the 11th inst., at No. 37, Water Street, Yokohama, JAMES BUDIE, a native of Plymouth, England.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 21st December arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 18th January (23 days); and the French mail of the 20th December arrived, per M. M. steamer *Oceanien*, on the 21st January (32 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The rebellion in Formosa has been subdued.

No report of the trial of Captain Ballentyne of the steamer *Whitby* has yet appeared in the Saigon paper.

The total amount of gold won at Raub last year was 5,755 oz., valued at \$201,880.

The Japanese Government intends to establish a state monopoly for the sale of leaf tobacco.

The *N. C. Daily News* says there is a great likelihood of H.E. Chang Chih-tung's iron-works at Hanyang being transferred to an English syndicate.

The German fourth-class cruiser *Geyer*, which has just gone through her speed trial satisfactorily, will come out to the China station in the spring to replace the *Ilisa*.

A telegram, dated the 8th instant, from London, sent by the Chinese legation to some friends of H.E. Kung Chao-yan in Shanghai, states that his Excellency has recovered from his illness.

The Tonkin rice crop, like that of Cochin-China, threatens to be a failure, owing to the want of rain. The *Courrier d'Haiphong* urges the necessity of irrigation works in order to protect the country against such disasters.

It is reported that the island of Lappa has been ceded by China to Germany. Lappa is opposite to Macao and being at the entrance to the stream formed by the junction of the West and North Rivers would be favourably situated for trade with the West River in the event of the latter being opened to steam navigation.

Owing to the reported successes of General Tung Fu-hsiang in Kansu against the Mahomedan rebels, the corps of General Cheng, 20,000 strong, which was on its way to reinforce the former has, the *N. C. Daily News* says, been turned back while going through Honan and ordered to return to the south for disbandment.

H.E. Wang Chih-chün, Provincial Treasurer of Hupeh, who returned last summer from a special embassy to Russia, has, the *N. C. Daily News* says, been telegraphed for from Wuchang by the Emperor to go up to Peking at once. It is reported that his Excellency is about to be again appointed to Russia, this time as Plenipotentiary for three years.

The Shanghai Municipal Council for 1906 has been elected without a ballot, only nine names having been sent in. Mr. Scott has intimated his willingness to take the chairmanship for another year. The nine gentlemen elected are Messrs. C. Beermann, D. Brand, J. Cooper, J. S. Fearon, W. D. Little, J. H. McMichael, A. P. MacEwen, D. M. Moses, and J. L. Scott.

According to the *Japan Mail*, the new men-of-war on account of which appropriations are asked for in the Budget for next fiscal year number only six, namely, two line-of-battle ships and four first class cruisers, the total cost being 47,154,576 yen. But it is understood that these constitute only the first instalment of the naval increase, and that further sums will be asked for next year.

*Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* states:—We learn that the negotiations on account of the pillaging of the German Mission Station at Moilin (near Swatow) have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. The ringleader, Sung A-ling, was decapitated on the 28th ult. at Shoashofu in the presence of the German Vice-Consul at Swatow, Mr. Strach, and the head of the criminal has since been exhibited in a cage on the market-place at Moilin.

Telegrams received from Peking by the Shanghai *Hu-Pao* announce the appointment of Hsu Chen-yi, Director-General of the Yellow River, to the Governorship of Kwangtung vice Ma Pei who deceased. The new Governor bears a high character for probity.

In the Japanese House of Representatives on the 9th January the opposition address to the Throne impeaching the Cabinet Ministers in connection with the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula and the Seoul episode of October 8th was thrown out by 170 votes to 103.

We learn that a party of foreigners including Captain Clarke, of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, Mr. Dowler, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and Mr. Hewitt, of the Green Island Cement Works, left Canton on the afternoon of Tuesday the 14th Jan., in a native house boat for Wuchowfu. They could not get a launch, it is reported, owing to official obstruction. The visit of these gentlemen to Wuchowfu is presumably in connection with the prospective opening of the port.

The annual report of the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited, has been published. The net profits, including \$34,447, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, amount to \$257,367. From this amount an interim dividend of \$2.00 per share has already been paid, and it is now proposed to pay a final dividend of \$2.00 per share, making a total dividend of 8 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital, and after writing off directors' and auditors' fees, there remains a balance of \$46,867 to be carried forward to the credit of a new profit and loss account.

A change is about to take place in the command of the Russian Pacific squadron. Vice-Admiral Tyrtoff is, we learn, going home by the French mail leaving here on the 5th February, and Rear-Admiral Makaroff is going home via America by the C. P. steamer *City of Peking*, leaving on the 25th January. Their Excellencies are appointed to command respectively the first and second Baltic squadrons at Cronstadt. Rear-Admiral Alexeieff will succeed Vice-Admiral Tyrtoff as Commander-in-chief of the Pacific squadron, and Captain Tschoukmine, Captain of the *Pamiat Azova*, has been promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral and is to be second in command of the Pacific squadron.

In a contributed article on "Doctor Kitasato and his work" in the *Japan Mail* it is stated that the doctor is now able to produce a serum capable of arresting the plague within a few hours after having been injected into the veins of the sufferer; also an injection which is a specific for cholera, another which is valuable in consumption, another which is an absolute cure for diphtheria, and still another which will cure leprosy. To the writer of the article Dr. Kitasato said:—"You may make the announcement that I have at last succeeded in obtaining a serum that will cure leprosy. I have tried it with positive and entire success." How about Dr. Goto's treatment? was asked. "Oh, that is superficial, and does not strike at the root of the disease. My injection completely neutralizes the virus of the lepra-bacilli. I have not yet published this discovery, but you are at liberty to announce it."



### THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE PO LEUNG KUK.

The past week has witnessed interesting ceremonies in connection with two important native institutions in our midst, namely, the opening of the building erected for the accommodation of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the laying of the foundation stone of the Po Leung Kuk's new home for rescued women and girls. A very marked contrast was exhibited by the two events. At the opening of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce the ceremonial was purely native, Chinese officials were imported to play the leading parts, the Hong-kong Chinese who assisted donned official robes for the occasion, and the form of propitiating the fengshui of the site was gone through. The Governor recently expressed his regret that after fifty years of British rule the Chinese community of this colony should remain so little Anglicised. If any proof were required to show that there was ground for His Excellency's regret it may be found in the proceedings of Friday last. The Chinese are of course free to practise their religious observances, and if they wished to have a religious ceremonial in connection with the opening of their Chamber of Commerce no formal objection can be raised, but it is truly lamentable to find the native mercantile community openly bowing to the fengshui superstition, one of the chief barriers to progress in the neighbouring empire. Moreover, if superstitious native ceremonials can be dispensed with in the dedication of such institutions as the Tung Wah Hospital and the Po Leung Kuk we cannot think that their adoption in the case of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce was due so much to intensity of religious feeling—which in fact does not exist in the Chinese mind—as to a desire to insult the established order of the colony. Why was not the Governor invited to perform the opening ceremony instead of a native official, or, if the promoters wished to invest the proceedings with a purely native character, why at least did they not select one of their prominent merchants to conduct it instead of making it a Chinese official function? It is satisfactory to find the Hon. Ho Kai and Mr. Wei Yuk declaring that, though both joint trustees of the institution, they had no hand in making the arrangements for its opening, that they were not present on the occasion, and that being British subjects they would not countenance such proceedings. The Registrar-General, we think, should look closely after this new institution, and if it be intended permanently to fly the Chinese flag the intention should not be allowed to be carried into effect. The ground on which the institution stands, it may be remarked, was given by the Government.

The ceremony at the laying of the foundation stone of the Po Leung Kuk's building on Saturday was in agreeable contrast to that which marked the opening of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. Many of the names prominently associated with the one institution appear also in connection with the other, but it would seem that the preponderance in the counsels of the two bodies lies with different sections holding diverse views. The Po Leung Kuk is in a measure connected with the Registrar-General's department and the investing of the ceremony with a semi-governmental character perhaps could not well have been avoided, but we are pleased to think that there was no desire to avoid it and that it was with genuine pleasure the majority of the members of the Society saw the Queen's representative

amongst them. Invitations to be present were also extended to a large number of the British and foreign community and the ceremony was made the occasion of a very pleasant reunion, which, in the absence of the dark background of the previous day's proceedings at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce might have been taken as agreeable evidence of harmonious relations existing between the two sections of the population. And it is evidence in that direction, but in face of the evidence on the other side it cannot be taken as conclusive. The harmonious relations are only partial, not complete, the ceremonial observed at the opening of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce showing unfortunately that an influential section of the native community is unfavourable to the recognition of British rule, is glad to seize upon an occasion to flout it, and is still bound up in the ignorant superstition of fengshui.

What functions the Chinese Chamber of Commerce is expected by its promoters to discharge we do not know. If properly conducted such an institution might be useful in bringing to the notice of Government hindrances to trade and in promoting improvements in the commercial conditions of the colony, but the history of its opening would seem to indicate that it is more likely to be used as a semi-political club opposed to British influence. Of the Po Leung Kuk, on the other hand, nothing but what is favourable can be said. It has lived down suspicion and now enjoys the good will of every one. Its object is the rescuing of women and girls who have been decoyed and the suppression of the kidnapper's cruel traffic, and its work is carried on as free of abuse as that of any large public institution well can be. This was established by the Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Government a few years ago at the request of the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, and that gentleman himself, whose criticisms at the time were warmly resented, became convinced of the utility of the Society during the course of the investigation and on Saturday he gave the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new building the countenance of his presence. As a matter of fact Mr. WHITEHEAD rendered a great service to the Society when he moved for his Commission of Inquiry, as its supporters were thereby enabled to justify the existence of the institution and to remove the last shred of suspicion that rested upon it. We cordially wish the Society all success in its laudable work.

### SIR NICHOLAS O'CONNOR AND HIS LACK OF INFORMATION.

There appears in the *Japan Mail* a defence of Sir NICHOLAS O'CONNOR on the charge of his alleged incompetence to collect knowledge, whereby Lord ROSEBURY'S Government was left in total ignorance of the real value of China's military strength prior to the recent war. The line taken is that all Governments alike were in a state of ignorance upon the subject and that even Japan, with her exceptional facilities for learning the truth, did not know any evidence of despising China's strength when she entered the combat; in short, that China's collapse was a surprise to the world at large and could have been foreseen by no one. We do not agree with our contemporary. There were many persons who at the outset of the war predicted for Japan precisely the walk over she enjoyed. As to the Japanese themselves, they had the programme of the campaign carefully mapped out at the com-

remencement and never found it necessary to deviate from it to any material extent. The Yokohama paper says "it must be admitted that if the Japanese were theoretically persuaded of their enemy's incapacity they never practically relied on the belief," which is only to say that they acted in accordance with the prudential military maxim not to despise the enemy. It is always necessary to be prepared for the unexpected, but in this case the unexpected did not happen and the Japanese estimate of the conditions of the campaign were fully justified. Now it so happened that their plans, together with the approximate dates on which important movements were to be effected, became known in a certain unofficial quarter and were communicated to the Legation, but the Minister, while acknowledging the receipt of the information, intimated his incredulity and continued his impassive attitude. His manner, in fact, was so supercilious as to discourage all further communications of a like kind, so that when information reached the same quarter as to the despatch of the secret mission to Russia it was communicated direct to the Foreign Office in London instead of through the Minister at Peking, and no one was more surprised than the latter when he heard of it. WANG CHIH-CHUN was duly sent on his mission, carrying the secret treaty with him, but the St. Petersburg Government thought that the particular objects in view could be better secured by an unwritten understanding than by a treaty, for the reason that the outside world can be kept in ignorance of the former, which can be modified or carried into effect as circumstances dictate, whereas a formal treaty is attended with the disadvantage that it may afford objecting parties a ground of protest. The treaty therefore was not ratified by the Emperor of Russia, but was replaced by an understanding, which is now in course of being carried into effect. Of the negotiations between Russia and China, however, the British Legation at Peking was in complete ignorance, although in certain quarters outside the Legation their general tenour was well known. The charge against the British Minister of inability to collect information would appear therefore to be well founded, not only with regard to China's military strength, but also with regard to her diplomatic relations with other Powers.

On one point, however, we must admit that the case put forward by our Japan contemporary succeeds, namely, the impossibility of foreseeing the collapse of China's Navy. One of the chief duties of the British Admiral, our contemporary says, is to communicate to the Queen's representatives in Tokyo and Peking everything that he discovers, everything that he knows, but "the most mistaken man in the East was the British Admiral. On the very eve of the war, having presumably utilized all his opportunities of scrutinizing the naval forces of the beligerents, he declared unequivocally that from every point of view the Chinese seemed to possess a better fighting machine, and to be better qualified to use it, than the Japanese. Pronounced by an expert indubitably qualified to judge, who might venture to traverse such a judgment." The Admiral's estimate of China's fighting machine may be accepted, but owing to the rottenness of her administrative system, under which peculation flourishes, the machine was out of gear and unfit for use. Probably the Japanese, with their excellent intelligence department, knew that, but few if any Europeans anticipated



that the fine ironclads of the Chinese would give such a miserable account of themselves. Assuming, however, that all the Chinese ships had been in good fighting condition, the Japanese ships possessed superiority in speed, while their fighting qualities were such that they would have been able to engage the attention of the Chinese and keep communications open until the victories of the Japanese land forces had brought the Chinese to earth. The nominal superiority of the Chinese fleet therefore was insufficient to endanger the Japanese plan of campaign, while as to the weakness of the Chinese land forces, few intelligent observers ever had any doubt as to the true condition of affairs. The surprise that the war really did bring was, not the revelation of China's weakness, for she lay at the mercy of any power that could land an efficient corps d'armée on her shores, but the revelation of Japan's strength and military efficiency, which, to all except a few intelligent observers, was wholly unexpected.

### AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

An address on Australia and the Asian Pacific, delivered by Mr. E. JEROME DYER before a representative meeting convened by the authority of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce and other representative bodies of Victoria has been published in pamphlet form and is well worthy of attentive consideration. Mr. DYER, as is well known, is a firm believer in the possibilities of extended trade relations between Australia and the Orient and an earnest advocate of measures directed to that end. In the address before us he discusses at length the capabilities of the markets of the Far East, more especially of Japan, and urges that in order to take full advantage of the latter the Australian colonies should give in their adhesion to the new treaty with that country. The objection that has been raised to the adoption of that course is that the Australians would thereby throw their country open to an influx of Japanese immigrants, to which similar objections would be raised in some quarters as to Chinese immigration. To this Mr. DYER replies that the Japanese have always been and are still free to come in as though the treaty were already signed, and that though there never have been any restrictions to Japanese coming into Australia, yet, so far as Victoria is concerned, there are fewer there to-day than of any other prominent Asiatic race. So long, however, as the treaty is not adopted, the legislature has power to restrict the inroad should it at any time reach alarming proportions, whereas under the treaty their hands would be tied. This, Mr. DYER says, sounds very plausible and might carry weight were it not that there is not the remotest likelihood of an inroad and even were there it could not assume dangerous proportions before the remedy provided in article 21 of the treaty could be applied, that remedy consisting in the right to withdraw from the treaty in twelve years. Japan, he goes on to say, has never been in a better position for dealing with its congested centres of population than it is to-day, and as to surplus population, it has none; it cannot ever find sufficient willing emigrants to populate the newly acquired territory of Formosa. Here Mr. DYER goes rather farther than the facts warrant. There has as yet been no attempt to find emigrants for Formosa. When they are wanted they will be readily forthcoming, as may be inferred from what has taken place in Hawaii, where the Japanese have become one of the most con-

siderable elements in the population. As to the recent and continuous increase of manufactories, which have absorbed thousands of hands and are still calling for more, the increase in the standing army and navy, and the practically officially forced tide of emigration which has set in toward the northern provinces of Japan, all of which Mr. DYER enumerates as reasons against anticipating any considerable emigration from Japan to foreign countries, they do not carry much weight. We may refer as proof to the contrary to the history of our own country: Great Britain, numerically a small nation and with manufactories constantly calling for more hands, has nevertheless peopled North America and Australia. There is *prima facie* no reason why the Japanese race should not spread in a similar way. If Australia invited Japanese immigration and offered the inducement of relatively high wages there can be no doubt that the natives of Dai Nippon would turn their faces thitherward in large numbers. But for the present, as Mr. DYER says, the Japanese Government are not even remotely likely to permit their people to emigrate to Australia. The advisers of the Mikado have determined not to have any questions on their hands such as the Peking Government has had to deal with in connection with Chinese emigration. Whether, however, they would be willing to enter into an agreement by which emigration to Australia should be restricted while at the same time the colonies were allowed to enjoy the benefits of the treaty is doubtful. What Japan aims at is international equality and if Japan is to be thrown open to Australia it is likely that free entrance for the Japanese into Australia will be claimed. The alternative would be that Australia would have to trade on the footing of a non-treaty power. But it would only be under a system of contract immigration that a large influx could be anticipated, and as such a system is not likely to be established the Australians have little to fear from the Japanese, who are as a race free from most of the objections which have been raised against the Chinese. They are a hard working but ambitious people and would not be content to occupy a lower status than the general population or to herd together in any quarters of their own as a race apart. Looking broadly they would not form a specially objectionable element in the colonies, and Australia would make a grave mistake if she forewent the commercial advantages of the treaty for visionary and sentimental reasons. Whether the working classes in Australia, who control the Government, will take that view, however, is somewhat doubtful.

### RIDING ON THE WONGNEICHONG RECREATION GROUND.

The ill-advised charge brought against Mr. A. S. MANNERS of riding a pony on the Wongneichong Recreation Ground without the consent of the Governor has been withdrawn, and it may now be pertinent to ask whether it would not be better if the Public Works Department in matters of this kind took legal advice before instead of after commencing proceedings. It is not edifying to see important public officials wasting their time on ridiculous trivialities and it must be exasperating to a defendant to be put to the trouble of going up to the Police Court and engaging counsel when there is absolutely nothing in the case. It would be a good rule, we think, that all departments except the Police wishing to bring charges in the Police Court should, before

doing so, submit the case to the Crown Solicitor to ascertain in the first place if there is any ground for a prosecution and, in the second place, to have the charge properly framed. In a case like the one under notice it seems derogatory to the dignity of the Governor's high office that his title should be specially introduced. "Riding a pony without the consent of the Governor" is almost good enough for a comic opera. "Eating a cake without the consent of mama" would be hardly a more ridiculous charge. The case also raises the question whether it would not be well to place the control of the Recreation Ground in the hands of a representative body. There is already a committee representative of the various clubs using the ground to confer with the Director of Public Works, but the executive control is vested wholly and solely in the latter, who apparently, as a matter of departmental convenience, deputed Mr. TOOKER to attend to the work. The regulations state that "the maintenance and preservation of the said grounds shall be under the care and direction of the Director of Public Works." If the maintenance and preservation were under the care and direction of the committee we can hardly suppose that frivolous prosecutions like that instituted against Mr. MANNERS would be entered upon. The case against him, as we understand, was simply this, that he rode on to the Recreation Ground to look at a football match. Mr. MANNERS claims on his side that the portion of the ground on which he rode was open to riding. When the case was before the Magistrate His Worship appeared to attach more importance to the question of whether the defendant had had notice of the regulations than to the question of whether riding was prohibited or not, though he expressed an opinion, without deciding the point, that an old regulation which prohibited riding was still in force as it had not been expressly repealed. The case having once been commenced it would have been more satisfactory if this point had been definitely decided, and we think if the Magistrate had looked more closely into the regulations he would have arrived at the conclusion that any one may freely ride on the Recreation Ground except in certain specified areas. In May, 1892, when the ground was being prepared and laid out, a regulation was issued in the following terms:—"Unless permission from the Government has been first obtained, no person shall ride over that part of the Wongneichong Recreation Ground which is enclosed within the Racecourse and the training track is prohibited until further notice." The "further notice" is contained in the regulations of the 7th November, 1892, which set apart a portion of the ground on certain days of the week for polo, from which it necessarily follows that the prohibition of riding was removed. Certain areas are "only to be used for cricket and golf," but with these reservations the whole ground is "public for general use" except when the portions allotted to special games on stated days are so engaged. A person on horseback may not ride over a cricket pitch or over the Golf Club's putting greens, or interrupt any game going on, but otherwise he is free to take his horse where he likes on the ground. If riders became so numerous as to interfere with the general use of the ground by non-riders it would be necessary to impose restrictions upon them, but as matters stand at present there can be no possible objection to persons riding within the limits above mentioned, nor is it prohibited by the regulations. Yet we find the



Government instituting an absurd and vexatious prosecution. On Kennedy Road, on the other hand, where riding is expressly prohibited, riding is freely tolerated. The regulations of the 20th May, 1887, published in the *Gazette* of the 21st of the same month, provide that "No wheeled vehicle or horses shall be allowed on the promenade known as Kennedy Road." We cannot find that those regulations have ever been repealed, but the public notice against riding has been removed from the board at the entrance to the promenade and the enjoyment of pedestrians is interfered with by riders. The road was constructed for a promenade, not for horse traffic, and as a promenade it ought to be preserved.

#### A WHITEWASHING BY-LAW.

The proposed new sanitary by-law requiring the limewashing of all tenement houses twice a year ought to command general approval. The Board having decided to make limewashing compulsory, however, if it wishes the by-law to be carried into effect, will have to go a step further and provide facilities for complying with it—to establish a limewashing department of its own in fact. If any ordinary Chinese contractor is sent for to limewash premises he uses as a rule ordinary whitening, which from a sanitary point of view is practically useless. Large property owners no doubt are in a position to make their own arrangements, but smaller owners may not be so fortunately circumstanced, and the ordinary householder who wanted his servants' quarters limewashed would find it very difficult indeed to get anything better than common whitewash. The new by-law will of course not apply to private houses, but it is proportionately as important that the necessary limewashing should be done in them as in tenement houses. European householders would certainly appreciate the convenience if they could have their servants' quarters properly limewashed periodically, and if proper arrangements were made by the Sanitary Board this could be done for them probably at a lower charge than would be demanded by a contractor for ordinary whitewashing. Probably Chinese householders would, with few exceptions, prefer to avoid whitewashing of any kind, and, if it were made compulsory, would get it done at the cheapest possible rate regardless of quality. We think it would be well if the new by-law were extended to cover all Chinese houses and the servants' quarters of European houses, provided the Board is prepared to organise an establishment for carrying out the work. The periodical limewashing of the interiors of all the houses of the colony would be one of the best possible preventives of another epidemic of plague, a danger from which the colony cannot yet be considered altogether free, notwithstanding our immunity last year. The outbreaks at Macao, Swatow, and Hainan showed that the disease is still lurking in our neighbourhood, and it behoves this colony to see that it is not again allowed to obtain a foothold here by any want of cleanliness or reasonable sanitary precautions.

A collision occurred at Chinkiang recently between the steamers *Kutwo* and *Tientsin*. The *Kutwo* in going alongside the hulk was caught by the tide and drifted down on the *Tientsin*, which was lying at the C.N. Co.'s hulk, damaging several plates, but not seriously.

#### THE MEKONG SETTLEMENT.

The fact of England's consenting to recognise the disputed territory to the east of the Mekong as belonging to France does not at the first blush appear to redound very greatly to the diplomacy or firmness of the present cabinet, but when further details are received it will probably be found that Lord SALISBURY has obtained some *quid pro quo*. The territory in question had certainly ceased to be of very much value to England since the wrongful cession by China to France of a strip to the north of it, as France had thereby slipped in a wedge between the British and Chinese frontiers and so left us with a detached bit of savage country bounded by the French possessions on the north, east, and south, and by the Mekong on the west. It had already been announced that with regard to China's wrongful cession of territory to France England would not look to the latter for redress, but would make China pay for her breach of faith by ceding upon her to surrender territory on the Burmese frontier. The territory actually occupied by England on the east bank of the Mekong therefore became of little use except as something that might be given to France in exchange for valuable consideration elsewhere. We can only hope that Lord SALISBURY has obtained its full worth and that the conflict of British and French interests in Siam may now be terminated. As yet, however, there is no indication of the withdrawal of France from Chantaboon.

#### THE DEPARTURE OF SIR FIELDING CLARKE.

(16th January).

The regret expressed in the *Supreme Court* yesterday at the departure of Sir FIELDING CLARKE, who has so ably filled the position of Chief Justice, will be shared by the whole community. A sound lawyer and a genial gentleman His Honour has been popular both professionally and socially. His attainments are of the highest order and in promoting him to a more important colony Her Majesty's Government have recognised sterling merit. Jamaica is to be congratulated on the acquisition of a Judge who maintains so worthily the best traditions of the bench, and Hongkong will wish Sir FIELDING and Lady CLARKE in their new home all possible happiness.

#### REVIEWS.

*The Rights of Aliens in Hongkong.* Compiled by J. P. BRAGA. Hongkong: Noronha & Co., 1895.

A FEW months ago a correspondence took place in the local press on the employment of Portuguese in the Post Office. Mr. Braga has collected all the letters, together with the editorial comments on them, and has published them with connecting notes of his own in this small volume, for which his fellow-countrymen will no doubt thank him. In addition to the newspaper correspondence, the book contains official correspondence relating to the nationality of children born of foreign parents in the British colonies, which took place in 1862, and also a tribute to the late Sir John Pope Hennessy, a Governor for whose memory Mr. Braga entertains the liveliest sentiments of admiration and gratitude, and whose portrait forms the frontispiece to the book. Mr. Braga expresses the hope that by these pages he will "have preserved from the halo of oblivion the memory of a Governor whose name is a household word in every Portuguese house in the Far East." "Halo of oblivion" reads something like "a blaze of darkness." Another curious slip occurs in the preface, where the author is good enough to say that he

does "not for a moment advocate the wholesale employment of aliens to the detriment or exclusion of the true-born Briton; that would, probably, be as impossible of accomplishment as it would, possibly, be inexpedient." The self-sufficiency which these words imply, and the suggestion that the wholesale displacement of Britons by aliens would be only possibly inexpedient, were, we venture to think, not present in Mr. Braga's mind and arise only from a misuse of words. On the whole, however, the author's English is correct and he discusses his subject, which is one on which he naturally feels strongly, with moderation and good taste. We do not propose to argue on the views expressed, which would only be to re-open a disagreeable and profitless discussion. Suffice it to say that the rights of aliens in Hongkong are the same as the rights of aliens elsewhere in the British empire and are in no jeopardy. Mr. Braga's ventilation of the subject will, however, prove interesting to the Portuguese community and to those who feel themselves aggrieved by the competition of Portuguese clerks whether in the public service or mercantile offices. We congratulate Mr. Braga on the manner in which he has discharged his self-imposed task, but it is rather to be regretted that while he was about it he did not take the trouble to translate the articles he reproduces from the Macao papers, instead of giving them in the original.

*Sketches of Tokyo Life.* By JUKICHI INOUE. Yokohama: Torando.

MR. JUKICHI INOUE either writes uncommonly good English for a foreigner or has had skilled assistance in the writing of his book. However that may be, he has given us a series of most readable sketches, which are respectively entitled, "The Story-teller's Hall," "The Actor and the Stage," "The Wrestler and his Ring," "The Geisha's Calling," "Fortune telling and its Professors," "Fires and Firemen," and "The Jinrickisha-man and his Vehicle." All these subjects are treated with an intimate knowledge for which we could hardly look except in a native of Japan and at the same time with a literary ability that renders them thoroughly entertaining. There is a brief introduction, in which, speaking of Occidental civilization in Japan, the writer says:—

"The same discrimination that she (Japan) showed twelve centuries ago when she imbibed Chinese literature and civilisation has stood her in good stead when she is brought face to face with European thought and European arts and sciences. She takes pride now, as she took then, in the preservation of her national individuality through all her transitions; and she does not regard as a reproach the charge that she only yields to necessity and a sense of self-preservation in adapting herself to the new conditions imposed by contact with Europe, because no nation with the least stamina would with alacrity take up another civilisation unless, like Japan, it recognises that its own is worn out and exhausted and it can only regain vitality by an infusion of a better and more efficient substitute. Paradoxical as it may seem, the Japanese, in spite of his eagerness for the new civilisation with which his country is undergoing rejuvenescence, is at heart a stubborn conservative; and though the nation has, it is true, committed blunders and sometimes been carried from one extreme to another, the general trend of its progress has on the whole been in the right direction, owing to the counterbalancing agencies of liberalism and conservatism. It is necessary to bear always in mind this peculiar trait of Japanese progress in passing judgment upon the phases of Japanese life and the state of Japanese society. Everywhere is this conservative spirit to be seen; and no profession or calling, however humble, is free from the predominant influence of its past. In the following sketches, which treat of vocations characteristically Japanese, this fact will be found to be especially conspicuous."

In the sketch of "The Jinrickisha-man and his Vehicle" we have the following account of the origin of the "man-power carriage":—

"It was early in 1869 that this vehicle was introduced into Tokyo by Takayama Kosuke and two others, who are believed to be its



inventors, though the honour has also been claimed for an American missionary. Whoever the inventor may have been, these were certainly the first to obtain Government permission for running it. It was, then, nothing more than a box supported by four props which rested without springs on the axle connecting the two wheels. A few cars of this description were kept on the southern approach to Nihonbashi, with a large flag set up to attract fares. As these *jirikisha* were most uncomfortable to ride in, they failed to command public patronage. To Akiba Daisuke are due the improvements which have made the *jirikisha* the most popular vehicle in the Far East. Akiba was a native of Yedo and supplied arms and saddlery to *samurai*, until the Restoration, when the gradual decay of his trade obliged him to look for a more lucrative employment, and he first commenced the manufacture of carriages, which he built both to order and for hire. He prospered in the trade. When he saw the newly-invented *jirikisha* in its crude state, he at once perceived the possibilities in store, and, after months spent in improving it, he opened a work-shop in Ginza, the main street of Tokyo, for the manufacture of his *jirikisha*; and as it was both comfortable and handy, his shop was soon flooded with orders. Akiba, after making a fortune by the vehicle, died in 1894. An ex-official of the Tokugawa Government was the first to apply the calash-top to the *jirikisha*. The body of the vehicle was at first lacquered black, yellow, crimson, or green, and adorned in addition with highly coloured representations of famous sceneries, warriors, actors, women, birds, beasts, fish, trees, or arabesques. In a corner of the back was given the owner's name with his address in full. But of late these glaring pictures have gone out of fashion; and generally only the owner's crest is painted in gold on sober background."

*My Holidays in China.* By WILLIAM R. KAHLER. Shanghai: Reprinted from the *Temperance Union*. 1895

THIS is an account of three houseboat tours, from Shanghai to Hungchow and back via Ningpo, from Shanghai to Le Yang via Soochow and the Tah Hu, and from Kiukiang to Wuhu. Mr. Kahler is a close observer and enquirer and has set down in much detail the narrative of his trips. He has also apparently been a careful collector of interesting items from the Shanghai native papers, which he introduces into his pages in connection with the stories told him by the natives while on his trips, so that we have a large amount of legendary and folk lore. This makes good reading in small doses, though its sameness makes it wearisome if too many pages are taken at once. The accounts of the trips have previously appeared in the *Temperance Union*, of which Mr. Kahler is the editor; in reproducing them in book form the writer might with advantage have applied the pruning knife and cut out a good deal of trivial matter that encumbers his pages. A notice of "My Holidays in China" would be incomplete without mention of the illustrations; there are twenty-six of them, reproduced from photographs, and they form a very interesting collection.

#### REPORTED CESSION OF LAPPA TO GERMANY.

20th January.

A private letter received from Macao yesterday contains a passage to the following effect:—

"The Chinese Government has ceded Lappa to the Germans, who are very busy surveying and cutting roads, etc. There are some marines, numbering forty or fifty, guarding the place. It is said the Germans intend to build a town like Hongkong on Lappa, as the West River is about to be opened. They are looking for a decent anchorage so that steamers may be able to come direct to Lappa instead of the cargo having to be transhipped at Hongkong."

A report to the same effect as the above has, we learn, reached some members of the Portuguese community, who regard it, however, with incredulity. More definite news will probably be received to-day. It will be noted

however, that the statements in the letter which has been placed at our disposal are categorical, and, although the news comes as a surprise, it is not improbable. That surveys are being made there can be no doubt, but, like those made recently at Quemoy, they may be only with a view to ascertaining the suitability of the place for settlement and may not indicate that a cession of the territory has already been made. The German man-of-war *Irene* left Hongkong on Sunday on a cruise to the southward, and it is possible her voyage may have some connection with this matter.

The island of Lappa is immediately opposite Macao and forms one side of the inner harbour. On the other side of the island the main stream formed by the junction of the West and North Rivers debouches. At the time of the Franco-Chinese war the French Admiral had it in contemplation to take some of his vessels up that stream and make a demonstration above Canton.

#### THE MEKONG SETTLEMENT.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, 16th January.

The Anglo-French agreement re Siam was signed on Wednesday. The Mekong becomes the French boundary up to the Chinese frontier. Great Britain and France undertake to refrain from armed advance in the Menam valley, but Siamese territory East and West of the valley is excluded in this clause.

LONDON, 17th January.

France obtains Mongsa and Battambang, the buffer state scheme having been apparently abandoned.

#### THE DEPARTURE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

LEAVE-TAKING AT THE SUPREME COURT.

On the 16th January Sir Fielding Clarke (Chief Justice) left the colony for England prior to taking up his new appointment in Jamaica. At the Supreme Court the previous morning the members of the legal profession bade his Lordship farewell and the ceremony was a very touching one. His Lordship was accompanied on the Bench by Mr. A. G. Wise (Puisne Judge) and the legal gentlemen present in the Court were—Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General), Messrs. J. J. Francis, Q.C., H. E. Pollock, Hon. Ho Kai, Dick-Melbourne, A. B. Johnson, H. L. Dennys, V. H. Deacon, E. C. Ellis, E. J. Grist, C. D. Wilkinson, G. C. C. Master, H. J. Gedge, J. F. Reece, H. Holmes, and M. J. D. Stevens. The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary, also attended. The whole of the officers of the Court were also present.

As soon as his Lordship took his seat everyone present rose and

The Attorney-General said—May it please your Lordship. We are met here on this occasion for the purpose of expressing to your Lordship on behalf of the members of the legal profession in this colony our sincere regret that you are leaving us, and our high appreciation of the able, impartial, and independent manner in which you have discharged the important duties of your high office. A few years ago Sir James Russell, who was your deeply respected predecessor, left our midst, and he did so under the shadow of an illness which compelled him to retire from public life and which soon afterwards proved fatal to him. We are indeed thankful that the circumstances under which you are leaving us are so widely different. You are going on promotion to another colony where your judicial abilities will find a wider scope than in Hongkong. In that new sphere, my Lord, you will doubtless find many friends, or make many friends. But, my Lord, permit me to tell you that though they may be more numerous they will not be more sincere than those you leave behind you here. It remains only for me, on behalf of the professional gentlemen around me, to wish you a hearty farewell, and we trust there will be many years before you of prosperity and welfare, and we trust you will find your new duties congenial to you. I say once more "Farewell."

The Chief Justice, who was evidently deeply moved, said—Mr. Attorney-General, gentlemen of the Bar and gentlemen practising in this court, the officers of the court, and the many friends that I see around me who have done me the honour to meet together to-day to wish me farewell, I beg to thank you very heartily and sincerely for your kindness, and I take this opportunity of acknowledging, as I do with deep gratitude, the kindness and consideration which have been always extended to me by the legal profession during the seven years that I have had the honour to sit upon this Bench. I need not tell you that I leave this colony with very great regret. I have been most kindly received and treated here, and I have had a very happy period of office, and I shall have with me wherever I go most pleasing and happy reminiscences of the time I have had here. I am cheered and pleased on this last occasion I shall sit here to see my friend Mr. Francis again at his seat at the table in front of me after a very serious illness, and I congratulate the members of the Bar and the public generally most heartily on this account. From you all I take leave with regret, and I assure you that I shall long remember your kindness. I wish you all farewell.

Mr. Francis—Will your Lordship permit me to thank you very heartily for your kind reference to me, and also permit me to add on behalf of the practising members of the bar our most hearty thanks for all your Lordship's patience, consideration, and kindness, which we all have experienced so very frequently. We thank you most heartily for all your kindness and consideration to this Bar.

The Chief Justice—I thank you.

His Lordship then proceeded with the case in which the National Bank of China sued for a writ of foreign attachment against the property of Chung Chu-ting, formerly of 40, D'Aguiar Street. It was proved that the defendant had property in the colony and his Lordship declared it liable to satisfy the claim of the plaintiffs. Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Ellis) appeared for the plaintiffs. The Chief Justice did not wear his wig and gown, and before commencing the case he remarked to Mr. Pollock, "I must ask you to excuse the absence of the judicial clothing as it has been packed up."

On the 16th January Sir Fielding and Lady, Clarke left by the *Kaiser-i-Hind* for England, and a large party assembled on the wharf to bid them goodbye, among the party being Major-General and Mrs. Black, the Acting Chief Justice and Mrs. Goodman, Mr. T. Jackson, and many others.

#### THE PO LEUNG KUK SOCIETY'S NEW HOME.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE.

On Saturday afternoon His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G., performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new home for women and girls which is being built by the Po Leung Kuk Society. Special arrangements had been made in connection with the ceremony, the complete success of which foretells a prosperous future for this worthy Society. His Excellency and suite were escorted from Government House by four mounted troopers, and throughout the entire length of the route large crowds of people assembled on each side of the street. Punctually at the appointed time, 2.30, His Excellency arrived at the site of the new home, and he was received by a guard of police under Chief Inspector Corcoran. A very large number of ladies and gentlemen had assembled in response to the Committee's invitation, amongst those present being His Excellency, Admiral Buller and Mrs. Buller, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart and Mrs. Lockhart, Hon. W. M. Goodman and Mrs. Goodman, Hon. F. A. Cooper and Mrs. Cooper, Hon. E. R. Bellios, Hon. A. McConachie, Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, Colonel Austey, Major the Hon. E. Noel and Mrs. Noel, Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Hon. A. K. and Mrs. Travers, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. Ho Kai, Captain Stirling, A.D.C., Dr. and Mrs. Wright, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mrs. Francis, Rev. Dr. Chalmers and Mrs. Chalmers.



Captain Anderson, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Milward, Mr. G. W. Playfair and Mrs. Playfair, Miss Van Buren, Mrs. Tomes, Mrs. Droeze, Mr. and Mrs. Byramjee, Mr. A. G. Romano, Mr. C. C. Platt, Mr. T. Jackson, Mr. A. B. Johnson, Mr. A. Danison, Mr. and Mrs. Mehta, Mr. C. Ford and Mrs. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Cox, and Messrs. Ho Mei, Ho Tung, Ho Fook, Li Sing, Lee Chai, Feng Ming San, Cheung Si Kai, Cheung Tang, Wai Yuk, Kwok Chik, Sing Tak, Lau, Lau Tung Tak, Tam Chuen Shu, Lau Wei Chun, Chui Chi Yuen, Lo Chi Ting, and many others.

The proceedings were opened by Hon. J. M. STEWART LOCKHART, the President of the Committee, who said—Your Excellency—On behalf of the Po Leung Kuk Society I have the honour to request you to lay the foundation stone of the new home for women and girls, and in doing so I desire to express on behalf of the members of the Society their high appreciation of the honour which your Excellency has done them in coming here to-day to perform this ceremony. (Hear, Hear.)

HIS EXCELLENCY—Mr. President of the Po Leung Kuk Society, you and your committee have asked me to lay the foundation stone of the new home for women and girls which it is proposed to erect on this site. I have the greatest pleasure in acceding to your request and am glad to have my name in any way associated with the admirable institution you represent. Before completing the ceremony, however, I should like, for the information of the spectators and of the invited guests, to make a few remarks as to the origin and past success of the Society. Some seventeen years ago the attention of the public was called by the Chief Justice to the evil practice of kidnapping which was rampant in the Colony and of selling the kidnapped women and children as if they were mere chattels. The principal Chinese residents (all honour be to them) were so impressed with the scandalous state of affairs in this respect that they memorialized the Governor, and through him the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and they asked for permission to form an association for the purpose of suppressing this terrible crime; of protecting women and girls, and of restoring those who had been kidnapped to their friends or relations. This permission was granted, and the Committee of the Tung Wa Hospital kindly placed at the disposal of the Po Leung Kuk Society a portion of their hospital for the temporary accommodation of the destitute women and girls who had been rescued or might be rescued from the terrible fate which was intended for them. I hold in my hand a return which shows that during the four years ending in 1891 no less than 2,751 persons have been dealt with by the Society, and I have in my possession another return which shows that from 1888 to the end of 1895 the large number of 5,543 persons have been rescued by this Society, the greater number of whom have been sent to their homes or handed over to their relatives. This is indeed a record of good work. It is one which I can only recommend itself to every honest and respectable resident in the Colony. I cannot imagine any more useful, charitable, and Christian-like work. It has been well said by Adelaide Procter that "God has glory when His children bring His poor ones joy and peace." Well, joy and peace must have been brought to many a troubled household by the restoration of girls by this Society to their own relatives and their own homes, and who dare assert that God has not been glorified thereby? And let me say here that the rules and regulations under which the Po Leung Kuk Society have so long and so successfully worked were drawn up by our eminent Q.C., Mr. Francis, whom we are all glad to see amongst us again restored to health after his serious illness. Well, ladies and gentlemen, you can easily understand that with so much work to do it was impossible, and it is impossible, for the Po Leung Kuk Society to do that work well and effectively in the cramped and unsuitable premises lent to them so liberally by the Tung Wa Hospital Committee. I consider that the Government and the community are much indebted to the Tung Wa Hospital Committee for the charitable assistance they have for so long given to the Po Leung Kuk, and we, the Government and the community, are

still further indebted to the Tung Wa Hospital Committee for handing over to this Society, for their new building, a site which was granted to the Tung Wa Committee some years ago for charitable purposes. You will wish to know how this new home is to be paid for. I will tell you. The Chinese residents have subscribed amongst themselves the handsome sum of \$30,000 towards it, and the Government, recognizing the utility and value of the Po Leung Kuk Society's efforts, has aided to that amount a further sum of \$20,000. With that \$50,000 and suitable buildings will be erected for the purposes of this institution on the site of the new stand. Ladies and gentlemen, I am glad to lay this stone this afternoon. You must agree with me in thinking that the past success of the Po Leung Kuk Society has been very great. It would be impossible to run such an institution on European lines or under European management. The Po Leung Kuk Society has proved itself worthy of confidence, and I ask you to concur with me in the hope I now express that its future success may be greater still, that it may be the means of minimizing, if not entirely of suppressing, this disgusting traffic, and therefore may be a permanent blessing to the present and future generations of Chinese women and girls.

Hon. HO KAI then handed a silver trowel and a silver mounted mallet to his Excellency, who thereupon smoothed the mortar and the stone was placed in its proper position under the supervision of Mr. Denison, the architect. After tapping the stone,

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Ladies and gentlemen, I declare this stone to be well and truly laid, and I ask you now to adjourn to the Tung Wa Hospital Committee Room.

A photograph of the group was then taken, and Hon. HO KAI called for three cheers for his Excellency, which were heartily given. The stone was inscribed as follows—"This stone was laid by Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G., Governor, January 18th, 1896" and contained one of each of the Hongkong coins and a copy of the day's issue of the *Daily Press*.

The company having adjourned to the Tung Wa Hospital Committee Room, wine and cake were served. After glasses had been charged,

HON. HO KAI said—Ladies and gentlemen, after the most interesting function over the way it is now my pleasant duty to propose for your cordial reception a toast which is generally well received by all classes of this community, that is, "The health of our excellent and much respected Governor, His Excellency Sir William Robinson." (Hear, hear). I am confident, ladies and gentlemen, that it does not require a long speech at any time to recommend this toast for your enthusiastic reception—(Hear, hear)—and especially on an occasion like this I know merely the mention will ensure for it your warm approval and support. That is one of the reasons, I suppose, why I have been selected to undertake this most light, agreeable, and congenial task. We are very much obliged to His Excellency for having come to-day to lay the foundation stone of the new home for rescued women and girls. We are more grateful still to His Excellency for the noble and staunch support which he has given to the Society in times of trouble and difficulty, when the Institution itself was in danger of being done away with and the useful work was much hampered and rendered less effective on account of the want of room and funds. Our gratitude to his Excellency in connection with this Po Leung Kuk Society is beyond the expression of words, and we members and supporters of this Society can only pray that his Excellency will be abundantly blessed for all the good he has done in connection with the Society and its work. Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to drink to-day most heartily with me to the health and happiness of our worthy Governor, Sir William Robinson. (Hear and Applause)

The toast was enthusiastically drunk and in reply,

HIS EXCELLENCY said—I thank you very much indeed for cordially drinking the toast of my health, which has been so felicitously proposed by the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai. As I said just now, I have had a great deal of pleasure in laying the foundation stone of this new building, because, in doing so, I feel I was not only

giving pleasure to myself, but I was doing a duty which would be expected of me by Her Majesty the Queen, whom I have the honour to serve. All Governors of colonies are expected to take a leading part in supporting any institution which has for its object the advancement of the moral and social condition of the people whom they govern, and therefore it has given me very great pleasure not only on my own account, but because I have done a duty which Her Majesty the Queen has most graciously devolved upon me. (Applause.) I wish the Society every success in the future, and I thank you for the manner in which you proposed the toast of my health. (Applause.)

While his Excellency was speaking another photograph was taken, and at the conclusion of his reply,

Mr. J. J. FRANCIS said—Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, I have been asked to propose the only other toast that is to be proposed this afternoon, and that is, prosperity to the institution the foundation stone of which we have just seen laid by His Excellency. In some sense I presided, if I may be permitted so to say, at the birth of the Po Leung Kuk Society. You have heard from His Excellency the Governor, in the address which he delivered at the laying of the foundation stone, under what circumstances the Chinese resident in the colony proposed to establish that institution. When their proposals first came before His Excellency the then Governor, they were referred to a number of gentlemen of whom I happened to be one, being at the time Acting Police Magistrate, for consideration and report. I know I was very pleased and gratified at the time by the efforts then put forward by the Chinese gentlemen who were then organising the affair, and I had very great pleasure indeed in strongly recommending it to the Governor, and in preparing rules for the management of the institution. You have heard from his Excellency what has been done during the seventeen years since the institution was started by the members of it; how many women they have rescued from destitution and misery; how many they have restored to their own homes; and it is only just to the Po Leung Kuk Society to say that that work was done under many disadvantages. You have heard from his Excellency the Governor that the room placed at their disposal in the Tung Wa Hospital was hardly suitable for their accommodation. They were not very extensively, in the first instance, supplied with funds, but through the zeal and energy of the members of the Committee, they were able to do a considerable amount of very valuable work; indeed it is difficult to say what is the real amount of rescue work that has been accomplished. It is, therefore, with very great pleasure indeed that I propose the future prosperity of this institution. If it does not prosper after this it will be the fault of the members themselves, because now they have a most handsome endowment and a fine building, and have been incorporated to the fullest extent by her Majesty's Government. They have been placed under the superintendence of the Registrar-General, not absolutely for the purpose of controlling the institution, but simply for the purpose of consulting the Committee and meeting any difficulties that may arise. At the same time anyone thinking over the subject must say that the greatest prosperity which can happen to the Po Leung Kuk Society is that it may come to an honourable end by the entire cessation of kidnapping, by the cessation of those miseries which it gives rise to, and that the institution should become no longer a necessity; but I am very much afraid that that end can never be completely attained. Therefore I sincerely wish, and I ask you to join with me in wishing, that this institution from this day forward may be even more carefully and more zealously managed than it has been in the past, that it may make most perfect and most efficient use of the means now placed at its disposal, and that through these means many women, many girls, may be rescued from misery and destitution and restored to their families and homes. I ask you, ladies and gentlemen, heartily to drink to the prosperity of the Po Leung Kuk Society, and I ask leave to connect with the toast the name of Mr. Leung Pui Chi. I am sure he will excuse me reading his name from



a slip of paper, because it has always been an impossibility for me to remember names for any length of time. May I also ask you, in conclusion, though it is not germane to the subject of the toast, to permit me to thank his Excellency for his kind words just now respecting my recovery. Ladies and gentlemen, "Prosperity to the Po Leung Kuk Society." (Applause.)

The toast was responded to by Mr. Leung Pui Chi, who said—your Excellency, Mr. Francis, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Po Leung Kuk I thank you very much for the kind manner in which you have just received the toast. The Society is pleased that its work is progressing and they will try to do their best to continue that work, and they hope it will be supported by every person in Hongkong, regardless of nationality. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated.

### FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.]

TAIPEIFU, 11th January.

The last reports are that everything has quieted down as far as warlike opposition to the Japanese is concerned, although the reports from some of the distant posts have not been received yet.

All North Formosa is under military rule at present, the streets are filled with sentries, Chinese are not allowed to walk about unless having a pass, and foreigners who are out after nightfall have to run the gauntlet of challenging guards while in the street. Reinforcements are expected in a day or so and the North will be subject to spring housekeeping in a way which will surprise those rebels who consider it good enough to be a smiling peaceful inhabitant during the day and a howling, murdering rebel at night.

JAMES W. DAVIDSON.

### SUPREME COURT.

18th January.

#### CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HON. W. M. GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

#### FORGERY.

Choi Cheung pleaded not guilty to a charge of forging a request for payment of \$34 and endeavouring to be caused to be paid to a Chinese boy the money under a forged letter.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General) prosecuted on behalf of the Crown, being instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor).

The following jury tried the case—Messrs. C. M. Firth, J. Lamke, H. Crombie, S. R. Ismail, W. A. Duff, J. Baptista, Chau Yun.

The prisoner was found guilty, and three previous convictions were recorded against him. He was sent to gaol for two years with hard labour.

#### CASE WITHDRAWN.

The Acting Attorney-General said he did not intend to proceed with the case against Kwok I Kau, the coxswain on a steam launch which ran down a sampan in the harbour on the 2nd inst., causing the death of one man.

The prisoner, who had been committed on a charge of manslaughter, was therefore discharged.

#### NOT GUILTY.

Wong Sing was charged with attempting to bribe a Chinese police sergeant with 65 cents. The jury, who were the same as in the forgery case, first returned a verdict of not guilty by a majority of four to three, but his Lordship could not take this verdict, and the jury then returned a verdict of not guilty by a majority of five to two. The prisoner was thereupon discharged.

This concluded the business of the Sessions.

From the *Peking and Tientsin Times* we learn that a rumour has been current in native circles at Tientsin that H. E. Li Hung-chang is shortly to be re-instated in his former offices there.

### HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 16th January at the offices. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present—Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Dr. F. A. Clarke (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

#### MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

#### NOTICES OF ACTION BY THE BOARD.

The following letter was read from the Colonial Secretary—"9th January, 1896. Sir.—With reference to the resolution passed by the Sanitary Board on the 3rd inst. on the subject of awnings and sunshades, I am directed by the Governor to suggest that in matters affecting private property it would be advisable in future to give due notice of the action which the Board intends to take and to explain the object of such intended action to the persons concerned. In the case of Chinese the Board might usefully communicate its intentions through the usual medium, viz., the Registrar-General."

The following minutes were attached.

The President—I don't see how such a course can be practically carried out. Nuisances require abatement forthwith. Notice of special action should be sent to the Registrar-General.

Mr. Ede—This only applies to awnings and sunshades and fair notice and explanation should be given. I do not agree that all resolutions of the Board be sent to the Registrar-General. It is only making unnecessary work.

The Health Officer—Does this apply to the abatement of nuisances on private property? It is a reasonable notice is always given, and the Board's instructions explained, both to Chinese and others. I suggest that the resolution of the Board passed on the 3rd inst. on the subject of awnings and sunshades be communicated through the usual medium, viz., the Registrar-General, and that the Secretary receive instructions to transmit all resolutions of the Board relating to Sanitary matters affecting the colony, to the Registrar-General for his information.

The President said he proposed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter and inform the Colonial Secretary that in the opinion of the Board it appeared desirable to send notice to the Registrar-General when special action was taken affecting the Chinese, but not when action was taken specially affecting the sanitation of the colony.

#### TAINTED WELL WATER.

Mr. W. E. Crow, Government Analyst, reported that six samples of well water which he had analysed were so tainted with impurities as to be unfit for potable purposes and likely to prove injurious to health.

The wells in question were ordered to be closed.

#### THE OBSTRUCTION OF NARROW LANES.

Messrs Leigh and Orange wrote asking if the Board would sanction the erection of new cook-houses at the back of houses on the east of Tung Man Lane, provided such cook-houses extended for only half the width of each house.

The minutes recommended the refusal of the application, the Health Officer remarking that it was of vital importance that narrow lanes at the backs of houses should be kept open and unobstructed.

It was resolved not to accede to the application.

#### MR. CROW'S WORK FOR THE BOARD.

A long letter was read from Mr. W. E. Crow, Government Analyst, having reference to the work done by him for the Sanitary Board since the 18th April last. The duties entrusted to him included special plague services, the enforcement of the Ordinance concerning the occupation of basements, the removal of obstructions in alleys, streets, &c., and the removal of cocklofts and cubicles in domestic buildings. Mr. Crow gave many details of his work for the Sanitary Board, and in conclusion said he would be glad at any time to place at the disposal of the Board his views on any of the subjects on which he had been engaged during the past seven months.

The following minutes were attached.

Mr. Ede—Mr. Crow has evidently done some very valuable work.

The Colonial Surgeon—I certainly think Mr. Crow should receive some extra remuneration for the arduous and valuable work carried out by him during the most trying months of the year.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—I agree with Mr. Ede.

The ACTING CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE moved—"That the Board desires to record its appreciation of the very valuable services zealously rendered by Mr. Crow."

Mr. EDE, in seconding said he heard that the Government had recognised in a substantial manner Mr. Crow's excellent services. Mr. Crow had fully earned such recognition.

The resolution was carried.

#### THE LIMEWASHING OF HOUSES.

The Health Officer wrote as follows to the Secretary—"6th January, 1896. Sir,—I have the honour to recommend, for the consideration of the Board, the desirability of adopting a by-law which shall compel the cleansing and lime-washing of all tenement houses at least twice a year. Power is given to the Board to make such a by-law under Ordinance 24 of 1887 section 13 sub-section 4, and I would suggest some such wording as the following:—'Any house or part of a house, unless specially exempted by the Board, which is occupied by members of more than one family, shall be cleansed and limewashed throughout by the owner, to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Board, not less than twice in every year, namely, during the months of February or March and of September or October respectively.'"

The following minutes were appended—

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—I recommend the adoption of the by-law suggested by the M.O.H.

The Acting Superintendent of Police—I agree with the Acting Colonial Surgeon.

The President—Add "and notice of such intended cleaning and lime-washing shall be sent to the Secretary of the Sanitary Board three days before the work is commenced."

The Secretary—I think the sub-section should be dealt with as a whole, viz., (1) cleansing premises, (2) lime whitening premises, and (3) the proper sanitary maintenance of premises in the colony. About half a dozen by-laws would, I think, cover the whole.

In the course of a short discussion Mr. EDE said a lot of nonsense had been talked about class legislation. He believed in class legislation and thought it was beneficial to the people generally.

It was resolved to pass a by-law in the terms of the one drafted by the Health Officer with the addition suggested by the President.

#### IMPORTED MEAT.

Hu Yan, lessee of No. 23 beef stall, Central Market, asked that a permit might be granted to him for importing from Canton and Whampoa beef for sale in the colony, as such beef is of superior quality in Canton and Whampoa.

The following minutes were appended—

The Secretary—I am of opinion that this request should not be granted. However, if there are people in the colony who are willing to buy meat imported from these places and they are fully aware that what they are buying is such imported dead meat, I presume their wishes must be met.

The President—I don't think this should be granted. It would probably lead to neglected animals being slaughtered outside the colony and the meat imported as Whampoa beef.

All the other members recommended refusal, and it was resolved to inform the applicant accordingly.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 4th January the death rate was 19.9 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 18.5 for the corresponding week of last year.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

We (*Japan Gazette*) understand that two adventurous Americans who recently arrived in Yokohama, Dr. W. H. Furness and Dr. H. M. Hiller, who hail from Philadelphia and are now staying at the Grand Hotel, have purchased from Captain Snow the schooner *Retriever*, and are now fitting her out with the view of embarking on an expedition to Borneo. Their intention, we believe, is to land on the western coast of the island, to travel up one of the rivers as far as possible into the interior, and thence to make their way as best they can to the eastern side of the island, where the *Retriever* will be awaiting their arrival.



### THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. MANNERS.

#### THE SUMMONS WITHDRAWN.

At the Magistracy on the 16th Jan. before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Mr. Ellis, who was appearing in another case, mentioned the summons charging Mr. A. S. Manners with riding on the Wongneichong Recreation Ground without permission of the Governor.

Mr. Ellis said—I received a letter this morning from Mr. Tooker stating that it has been decided not to proceed further with the case. The letter is unofficial and I do not know whether this has been done with your Worship's permission. I am prepared to go on with the case this afternoon.

His Worship—Mr. Tooker withdraws. I had a telephone message this morning.

Mr. Ellis—Then the proceedings are at an end?

His Worship—Yes.

### INSULTING LANGUAGE IN THE POLICE COURT.

#### AN INSURANCE COMPANY SECRETARY SENTENCED TO IMPRISONMENT.

At the Magistracy on the 16th January, before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Chan Tseung Fat, Secretary to the Man On Insurance Co., Limited, was charged with using insulting language to Inspector Stanton in the presence of the Magistrate.

The case for the prosecution was that on the 14th inst. a case of using fraudulent scales was heard in the Court. After the hearing the defendant left in company with Chan Tseung Fat, and as they were going out the latter used a very insulting expression which was presumably intended for Inspector Stanton, who had been giving evidence. The remark was heard by Inspector McEwen and P. C. 70, who were sitting near the door. The defendant went away, and at a convenient time Inspector McEwen informed the Magistrate of what the defendant had said. His Worship told McEwen to do what he liked in the matter and the defendant was fetched from his office and brought to the station, where he was charged. Defendant then saw Inspector Stanton standing outside the Court and said, "I am sorry I said what I did just now; I know it was wrong, but you didn't treat me as a gentleman."

Mr. Ellis, who defended, called Inspector Butlin, who said that before going out of the station the defendant asked him for McEwen's name and accused that officer of using the expression to him. Defendant further said that McEwen ought to be reported.

Mr. Ellis said the case was a trumped up one and that McEwen had charged the defendant in order "to get in first," as the officer was afraid he would be reported.

His Worship—What about the other witness—P. C. 70?

Mr. Ellis—He is hand in glove with McEwen. The complaint was brought simply as a shield to McEwen, and the defendant would not have gone to Inspector Butlin if McEwen had not used the expression himself. Therefore the case ought to be dismissed.

His Worship—I am quite satisfied on the evidence that this expression was used. I have the evidence of McEwen and the police constable and they both heard this man use the expression. Then there is the evidence of Inspector Stanton that the defendant went up and practically apologised to him for having used the words. I should have considered it only a gracious act on the part of the defendant to have apologised to the Court for the way in which he had treated it. A fine of \$50 for such an offence as this would be useless on a man in his position and I shall send him to gaol for seven days.

Mr. Ellis—Will your Worship allow the defendant out on bail pending an appeal, as it is a very serious thing for him?

His Worship—I intend to make it a serious thing; that is the reason why I have sent him to gaol. A fine of \$50 would not have touched him; it would not have been of the slightest use.

Mr. Ellis—My client has denied using the words, and he would have been the first to have apologised if he had used them.

His Worship—I doubt that very much. What do you want to appeal on?

Mr. Ellis—On a question of fact.

His Worship—You can appeal if you like on a point of fact. The Court is entitled to the respect of Chinese as well as of other people. I have had to punish people before, and only the other day I fined Mr. Minhinnett \$50 for wilfully giving false testimony here. I intend to maintain the dignity of this Court to the very best of my power, and that is the reason why I have considered it my duty to impose a term of imprisonment on this man. I do not see for a moment how you can win the appeal on this evidence.

Leave to appeal was granted, defendant being ordered to find a surety for \$500 for costs to prosecute the appeal, and one of \$500 to come up for punishment if the sentence was confirmed.

### HONGKONG HIGH LEVEL TRAMWAYS CO., LIMITED.

The eleventh ordinary meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Limited, was held on the 20th January at the office of the General Managers, Messrs. J. D. Humphreys and Son, Queen's Road Central. Mr. J. D. Humphreys presided and there were also present—Messrs. C. Ewens, J. Orange (Consulting Committee), Hart Buck, H. Humphreys, J. R. Michael, J. H. Cox, A. H. Mance, J. S. Hagen, G. Murray Bain, and W. E. Clement.

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, you have no doubt seen and read the report and statement of accounts and with your permission we will take them as read. I am pleased that the results of the year's working again enable us to pay you an increased dividend, viz., of 6 per cent., as against 5 per cent. last year. The popularity of the tramway service has largely increased in consequence of the improvements at the Company's stations, especially at the upper and lower termini, where the arrangements made for the comfort of the public are as complete and perfect as they can be made. These and the liberal time table, without which residence at the Peak all the year round would be impossible, have steadily increased your returns, and will no doubt continue to do so in the future, we hope with improved results. I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions were asked and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts. Mr. Cox seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I have to announce, with regret, the death of Mr. Poon Pong, and I scarcely think it necessary, unless you think so, to appoint another member on the Consulting Committee in his place. I therefore propose that Messrs. Ewens and Orange, who offer themselves for re-election, be re-elected.

Mr. MICHAEL seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I have also to regret the death of Mr. Lyall, which rendered the office of auditor vacant. It appears that Mr. Henderson was promised the appointment and I knew nothing about it. Mr. W. H. Potts was appointed, so there was no way out of the difficulty but to have the accounts audited by both these gentlemen, and there can be no objection, I think, to a double audit. I therefore propose that Messrs. Henderson and Potts be elected auditors for the ensuing year.

Mr. Cox seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow morning. That is all the business and I am much obliged to you for your attendance.

The following squadron circular has been issued by Rear-Admiral McNair, commanding the U.S. naval force on the Asiatic Station:—By authority of the Honourable the Secretary of the Navy, the following values are announced for the quarter ending March 31st, 1896:—Imperial Japanese Yen, gold, \$0.997; Imperial Japanese Yen, silver, \$0.529; Mexican Dollar, \$0.533.

### THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LIMITED.

The following is the seventh report of the board of directors to the ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the Company's offices, Victoria Buildings, at noon on Thursday, the 23rd January.

Gentlemen.—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Company and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1895.

The net profits for that period, including \$34,447.02 balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, amount to \$257,367.52. From this amount an interim dividend of \$2.00 per share has already been paid, and it is now proposed to pay a final dividend of \$1.00 per share, making a total dividend of 3 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital, and after writing off directors' and auditors' fees, there remains a balance of \$46,867.52 to be carried forward to the credit of a new profit and loss account.

#### DIRECTORS.

Mr. J. S. Moses having left the colony, Mr. M. D. Ezekiel was invited to join the Board in his stead.

Messrs. N. A. Sie's and M. D. Ezekiel now retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

The directors regret to have to record the death of their colleague, Mr. Poon Pong.

#### AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and J. C. Peter who retire but offer themselves for re-election.

J. J. BELL-IRVING, Chairman.

Hongkong, 13th January, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET.	
LIABILITIES.	
31st Dec., 1895.	\$ c.
Paid-up capital .....	2,500,000.00
Reserve fund .....	1,250,000.00
Accounts payable .....	442,681.03
Balance of profit and loss account .....	157,367.52
	\$4,350,048.55

ASSETS.	
31st Dec., 1895.	\$ c.
Cash .....	1,850.01
Amount advanced on mortgage .....	2,512,624.12
Amount invested in property .....	1,797,736.54
Furniture account .....	3,366.79
Accounts receivable .....	34,472.09
	\$4,350,048.55

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
30th June, 1895.	\$ c.
To interim dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year .....	100,000.00
31st Dec., 1895.	
To charges account .....	19,309.10
To repairs to house property .....	5,663.62
To legal expenses .....	571.26
To advertising account .....	303.65
To fire insurance account .....	1,542.72
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—	
Directors' fees .....	\$ 5,000.00
Managing directors' fees .....	5,000.00
Auditors' fees .....	500.00
Final dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year .....	100,000.00
Balance to be carried to new account .....	46,867.52
	157,367.52
	\$284,757.57

RESERVE FUND.	
1st Jan., 1895.	\$ c.
By undivided profits 1894 .....	34,447.02
31st Dec., 1895.	
By interest account .....	\$166,277.06
By rent account .....	74,682.83
By commission account .....	8,925.06
By scrip fees .....	425.00
	250,310.85
	\$284,757.57

RESERVE FUND.	
31st Dec., 1895.	\$ c.
To balance .....	1,250,000.00
1st Jan., 1895.	
By balance .....	1,250,000.00

A telegram was received at Nagasaki by Messrs. Inamatsu & Co. on the 10th January, stating that the steamer *Hoshio Maru*, which left Nagasaki for Formosa on the 22nd ult., with 300 passengers and about 100 tons of cargo, was wrecked off Yayeyama Island on the 28th ult. No further particulars are yet known, says the *Nagasaki Express* of the 13th January.



## CRICKET.

## HONGKONG C. C. V. THE GARRISON.

The return match between the Cricket Club and the Garrison was played on Friday and Saturday the 17th and 18th inst. and resulted in a complete victory for the soldiers in one innings and 138 runs.

As regards the cricket, to use the term in its general sense, one might call it the most lamentable performance that has been witnessed on the ground for many years. Granted that the Club were utterly defeated in their first innings by the gross bowling of Vallings and Green, is it any reason that such slackness should have been shown throughout the whole match by certain members of the Club eleven? It is all the more to be regretted that it is in the younger players that the slackness is particularly noticeable; stiffness and slowness may be pardoned in a man who is nearer forty than twenty, but when it comes to young fellows of twenty or so being lazy and slow on the field there can hardly be any expression too strong to be used in their condemnation. On Friday afternoon, when smart fielding might have done a lot at the beginning of the Garrison innings, on several occasions the ball was seen to trickle slowly towards a fielder and instead of trying to save the run he calmly waited till the ball had reached him, by which time of course a run had been scored when there should have been none. Then again on Saturday morning there was still an off chance of saving the match (a remote one certainly, but still in cricket many things happen) and one would have thought that the Club would have done all they could to avert defeat. No such thing; three or four were present soon after 11 a.m. but the rest came about 11.15. After lunch the same thing happened. The usual time for turning out is 1.30 p.m., but two o'clock had struck before any attempt was made to continue the play. It might not have been possible to save the match, but still, why not play the game properly. Surely such players must know that they are merely holding themselves up to the derision of all keen cricketers. Many old hands and keen supporters of the game left the ground saying that they were thoroughly disgusted with the whole thing. There is always an excuse for missing a catch or making a 6, but there can be no excuse for slackness. A personal experience of the writer's may perhaps be somewhat to the point here:—Many years ago he was playing in a match in England and being only a boy of about thirteen thought it good form to be lazy and slack in the field, in short he behaved disgracefully as regards the game. Unknown to him his father was watching the match. Suffice it to say that on returning home the young cricketer had an interview with his father at which a dog whip played a not unimportant part. That lad has now grown into a man and has never again given cause for the word "slack" to be used against him in the cricket field. It is not intended to suggest corporal punishment in this instance, but still it is to be hoped that many may take these matters to heart and not in future lay themselves open to the scorn of every true lover of the game.

The club were unlucky in not having the services of that good all round cricketer Sercombe-Smith, but stern duty kept him away. Also, Firth being away serving on a jury on Saturday morning was a bit of bad luck. Darby won the toss and naturally elected to bat. Vallings commenced the attack for the Garrison, his first ball, a clinker, just dislodging Lowson's balls. Anton was caught off the third ball of the same over. Green bowled at the other end and it speedily became apparent that no one could touch either of these bowlers. The analysis will show the excellence of the bowling and so there is no need to say any more about it here. The club were all out for 49.

The soldiers commenced their innings by sending in Campbell and Percival, who were opposed to the bowling of Lowson and Firth. After Percival had put Lowson's first ball away to leg very prettily, both batsmen played with great caution for some time, runs coming very slowly. After he appeared on the board Percival began to lash out a bit and was finally caught for a well played 39. Surgeon-Major Johnston played out time. On resuming on Saturday, runs came very slowly at first, both men playing

a very steady game. Sergt. Burton made things a little more lively and after being missed by a "substitute" he continued scoring very merrily till a misunderstanding got him run out. Three wickets for 191. Green and Knox followed, but did not give much trouble. Eccles came in at 198 and commenced making matters a bit lively for the fielders. Campbell played a ball on to his wicket. His 72 was made in his usual good style. Eccles had to retire to a shooter from Firth after making 58 in about fifteen minutes without giving a chance. The innings closed for 279. Alexander being unfortunally run out owing to a second misunderstanding.

The Club's second innings does not call for much remark. Lowson, Anderson, and Anton did their best to avoid an innings defeat. At one time there were five wickets down for 9 runs and all good wickets. The analysis of the first eight overs is interesting—Vallings three wickets for eight runs and Green two wickets for no runs.

The Band of the Rifle Brigade played on the ground on Saturday and was every much appreciated by the spectators.

## THE CLUB.

Dr. J. A. Lowson, b Vallings...	0	c Campbell, b Green	29
A. S. Anton, c Alexander, b Vallings	0	st. Paley, b Vallings	21
C. M. Firth, c and b Vallings	18	c Burton, b Vallings	1
E. W. Maitland, c Eccles, b Green	5	c Eccles, b Vallings	1
F. Maitland, c Paley, b Green	3	b Green	3
Surgeon Read, R.N., b Green	5	b Green	0
Lieut. J. Sheldford, R.N., b Green	1	b Green	3
H. Gillingham, not out	6	c Eccles, b Vallings	0
S. J. Darby, b Vallings	4	not out	0
A. Anderson, c Johnston, b Vallings	0	l.b.w. Alexander	21
R. F. Lammert, b Green	4	b Alexander	7
Extras	3	Extras	6
Total	49	Total	92

## BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs	Maid	Runs	Wides	N.B.	Wickets
First Innings.					
Vallings	16	5	25	1	5
Green	15.4	5	21	—	5
Second Innings.					
Vallings	14	1	51	—	4
Green	11	4	31	—	4
Alexander	2.1	1	4	—	2

## THE GARRISON.

G. D. Campbell, H.K.R., b Lammert	72
C. Percival, R.B., c Lammert, b E. W. Maitland	39
Surgeon-Major Johnston, A.M.S., c Lowson, b Lammert	23
Sergt. Burton, R.B., run out	40
Bandsman Green, R.B., b Sheldford	6
Capt. Dyson, A.P.D., l.b.w., Lammert	0
C. W. Knox, R.B., b Sheldford	0
Capt. Eccles, R.B., b Firth	58
Rev. G. R. Vallings, not out	7
G. Paley, R.B., c Lowson, b E. W. Maitland	6
R. Alexander, R.B., run out	0
Extras	28
Total	279

## BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs	Maid	Runs	Wides	N.B.	Wickets
Lowson	14	3	42	—	—
Firth	17	7	14	—	1
Anderson	2	1	2	1	—
Sheldford	16	3	51	—	2
Darby	3	1	17	—	—
E. W. Maitland	18	6	29	—	2
Gillingham	5	1	14	—	—
Lammert	19	4	66	—	3
F. Maitland	2	—	14	—	—

At Foochow there was opened on the 5th inst. a new Roman Catholic chapel for the use of the Roman Catholic section of the foreign community. It is not a mission chapel, but has been erected by donations and subscriptions raised amongst the Catholic members of the community for the use of foreigners only and is under the management of a committee composed of Monsignor Masot, Bishop of Foochow, Mons. Frandon, Vice-Consul for France, Mr. T. Fairhurst, Mr. E. F. d'Almeida, and Mr. A. N. Mendes as hon. secretary and treasurer. The chapel is prettily situated among the trees in the grounds adjoining the French Consulate. The style of the building is gothic. The consecration service was conducted by Monsignor Masot.

## ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The race for Mr. Mitchell's cup was sailed on Sunday in very unsatisfactory weather. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Kowloon Rock, Channel Rocks, dinghy off pier, leaving all to starboard, twice round, 13 miles. The following boats started at 11.15.

Arrow	Lieut. Carry	allowed
Meteor	Mr. T. Lammert	5 minutes.
Erica	Mr. Denison	6 "
Princess	Mr. McKie	6 "
Dart	Mr. A. H. Barlow	6 1/2 "
Ladybird	Mr. Hastings	8 1/2 "
Payne	Royal Engineers	8 1/2 "
Stella	Capt. Sterling	9 1/2 "
Petrel	Mr. Morton Jones	9 1/2 "
She	Mr. Gale	9 1/2 "
Elgin	Mr. Hamann	12 "
Seabreeze	Lieut. Paley, R.B.	12 "
Spankadiello	Lt. Ramage Dawson	15 "

The first part of the race the wind was very light and paltry, barely strong enough to enable the boats to beat up against the flood tide, and many different courses were sailed in the hunt for wind. *Payne* and *Meteor* tried the Hongkong shore. *Erica*, *Ladybird*, *Arrow*, and *Stella* went into Hunghom Bay, and *Princess*, *She*, *Elgin*, *Petrel*, and the rest of the fleet tried a middle course. At one o'clock a light wind from the north-east started and *Ladybird*, *Arrow*, *Stella*, and *Erica* found themselves in the van, and the Kowloon Rock was rounded by them some fifteen minutes or so ahead of the next portion of the fleet, consisting of *Payne*, *Dart*, and *Princess*. The wind increased as the day wore on and *Ladybird*, getting the best of it, was round Channel Rocks some distance ahead of *Arrow* and *Stella*, with *Erica* fourth, some twelve minutes separating the four boats. A quick run brought the fleet down to Kowloon Point, when the line was crossed the first time as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Ladybird	2	15	35
Arrow	2	20	10
Stella	2	21	20
Erica	2	30	10
Princess	2	34	45
Payne	2	36	50
Dart	2	37	0
Meteor	2	40	0
Elgin	2	40	2
She	2	40	10
Petrel	2	43	40
Spankadiello	2	54	53
Seabreeze	2	56	15

The breeze held good for the rest of the race and many of the boats closed up considerably on the leader, the *Arrow* passing her before rounding Channel Rocks and *Dart* and *Meteor* both passed *Payne* on the beat up. The Rocks were weathered as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Arrow	3	13	5
Ladybird	3	13	55
Stella	3	10	10
Erica	3	19	40
Princess	3	20	02
Dart	3	32	25
Meteor	3	34	10
Payne	3	36	30
She	3	38	00

The rest gave up before reaching this mark.

In the run down the same order was maintained to the finish:—

	H.	M.	S.
Arrow	3	50	28
Ladybird	3	50	54
Stella	3	56	30
Erica	4	1	48
Princess	4	9	14
Dart	4	10	55
Meteor	4	12	2
Payne	4	14	47
She	4	19	3

The cup was thus won by *Ladybird*, *Stella* being second, and *Arrow* third.

It will be learnt with satisfaction, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that Mr. Thomas Haubury, formerly of Shanghai, in recognition of his many benefactions and other services to Italy, has been created a Marquis by King Humbert.



## FOOTBALL.

## HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB v. THE NAVY.

On Thursday afternoon, the 16th instant, a large number of spectators lined the ropes to view this match. The game was started early and after the teams had settled down to work the struggle became very interesting. At first the Navy began to press and Maitland and Davies had plenty to do, but after a little while the tables were turned and the Club forwards began to play an excellent game. Several good movements by Firth and Campbell threatened to lower the Navy's colours, but Peade rose to each occasion and averted disaster. An excellent rush by the Navy was stopped only just in time by E. W. Maitland, the Club's back, who kicked well away when surrounded by several opponents. An excellent dribble by MacKay took the ball almost to the goal-line and a corner had to be conceded. Nothing came of this and the ball was taken up by Shelford, who finally caused the Club's custodian to handle. The ball went well away to Firth and was passed to Hancock, who kicked forward past a heavy back, and, rushing up himself, by careful and judicious play managed to notch the first point. The Navy at once began to play up. Blount at times much assisting his side by vigorous and well-directed kicking. Just before half-time Firth sent in an excellent shot which was as successfully parried. A corner being given against the Navy some excellent play was witnessed. The ball fell to Looker, who headed it just under the bar, but Peade was not found wanting, and another corner resulted, which proved fruitless. Restarting found the Club strongly pressing, particularly on the right wing, until Blount extricated the ball by a most useful kick. Shelford and the other forwards on the left now began to prove extremely troublesome and Maitland and Davies obtained plenty of practice. From a throw in the ball fell to the Navy and by a swift high shot the game became even. Immediately a strong attack was made at the other end and Campbell from the corner sent the ball right across the goal mouth. Mackay made an excellent attempt to place it under, but it just escaped him and went behind. Several other attempts were made by the Club. Hancock much assisting by his judicious passing out, but nothing resulted. The Navy now, with much enthusiasm, began to harass and by a long shot difficult to essay Maitland was beaten. Right to the finish the Club made great efforts to retrieve, Arnould and Oliver greatly assisting to keep the ball well up, and two corners resulted. Then the whistle blew and a good game ended in a victory for the Navy by two goals to one.

## RAUB GOLD.

It will interest our readers to have an account of the working of the Raub mine during the past year. There are four crushings a year, each including three monthly rough "clean ups." The latter give results in amalgam from quantity of stone crushed monthly. The quarterly return gives total smelted gold from the total stone crushed in the three months previous.

The returns for 1895 are as follows:—

Date.	Tons Stone.	Ounces Gold.
1st crush 1st April	2,560	1,052 4 dwt.
2nd " 1st July	2,570	1,488 12 "
3rd " 23rd Sept.	2,875	1,346 18 "
4th " 3rd Jan.	3,761	1,868
	11,766	5,755 14

The average result value of the stone crushed in the above four quarterly periods is as follows:—

1st crush (1895)	8 dwt. 5 grains per ton.
2nd " "	11 " 14 " "
3rd " "	9 " 9 " "
4th " "	9 " 22½ " "

Average 9 " 18½

As a general result Raub stone may be taken at present as practically half-ounce stuff. The main object must now be the multiplying of the working faces in the mine, the increase of supply to the battery, and the enlargement of the battery itself. In fact it would be possible

in a short time to keep 100 heads of stamps going, now that transport has been so greatly facilitated by the railway, which is being extended up the centre of the concession.

The effect of this acceleration of supply, obtained at a great diminution in transport expenditure, is to be seen in the fact that nearly over 780 tons more stuff had been supplied to the battery, and over 520 ounces more gold got, than in the previous quarterly crush. It is to be noted too that the railway was only opened in the middle of the first month of the quarter (October 16), and therefore the full effect of that immense facility is not fully exhibited in the last quarter's returns.

The actual average value of the gold got at Raub throughout the year is 76 shillings per ounce. The total value of the past year's gold is, therefore, a trifle over £21,871, or at a 2s. 2d. dollar, over \$201,880.—*Singapore Free Press.*

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

## THE NEW BALMORAL MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—I note with some surprise that the above Company has sold the Eureka Mine to the new Company known as "Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited." As those best able to judge know very well, this mine is by far the most valuable of any belonging to the New Balmoral Company and although Mr. Henderson has spent considerable money in putting up good machinery, etc., to work it, he has as a matter of fact confined his operations to working the unprofitable Grant, Queen, and Balmoral Mines. The price paid for the Eureka by the Oliver's Mines Company, viz., \$35,000, can be little more than the value of the plant belonging to it.

I and other wretched shareholders have as the only alternative to losing every thing to take shares in the Oliver's Freehold Co.—Yours truly,

SHAREHOLDER.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1896.

## ACCIDENT AT THE MOSQUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The roof of an outhouse in the compound of the Mosque used as a rest-house for poor Mussulman travellers fell in at twelve o'clock last night through dry rot, severely injuring three of the inmates, who were rescued from being buried in the debris by the assistance of several Portuguese gentlemen residing in the neighbourhood. One of the sufferers would have been suffocated had it not been for the timely succour rendered. Not being present at the unfortunate accident I have no knowledge of the names of those gentlemen. I therefore request you to publish this as an acknowledgment and thanks for the service they have rendered.—Yours faithfully,

S. FUCKEERA,

For Committee of Management.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1896.

## PROPOSED NEW ROAD FROM VICTORIA GAP TO MOUNT KELLETT RIDGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—A very good letter appeared in the *China Mail* of 4th instant signed by "Pedestrian," advocating this improvement upon the ground of its great advantage during the summer months to those living on the lower levels. One of the most painful defects of residence in Hongkong is the extreme limitation and confinement of the place. On account of the crowded condition of the roads and the steepness of the hill inclines the use of horses is quite exceptional. Hongkong measures but nine miles by four and a half, and yet not one in ten of the foreign inhabitants

and not one in one thousand of the Chinese has anything like an intimate acquaintance with the outlying portions of the Island. This is a very great loss intellectually and physically. Indeed it is stated upon high medical authority that one of the most prolific sources of disease amongst our native population is the want of outdoor exercise. Anything therefore which is calculated to attract them to the hill tops should be encouraged. This proposed improvement is certainly of more importance to the masses who dwell below than to those who live above, and Pedestrian rightly points out the charming change which is found in a trip up by the Tramway, and a walk down again via Magazine Gap. The walk is one of the prettiest in the world, and would be much more frequently undertaken were it not for the most unsatisfactory gradient from the station to Plunkett's Gap. To begin with, you have to descend twenty feet to Mr. Ede's corner, and then to climb up again to the level at which you quitted the tramway car. This discouragement surmounted, you next find that in addition to the very considerable ascent necessary to reach the Aberdeen and Magazine Gap Junction, you have to toil up and afterwards descend no less than sixty-five feet additional to and from Plunkett's Gap, so that every resident in the Mount Kellett neighbourhood has to ascend and descend uselessly, upon every journey, one hundred and seventy feet; the simple effect of this being that instead of strolling pleasantly along upon a gentle gradient of about one in twenty, which is rather more agreeable than a dead level path, you have to climb and pant upon an incline of one in seven, which is not delightful at any time, and in the summer is trying to very many, especially with the thermometer at 80° in the shade. When the new road is made it will doubtless be also used by all those who live at the highest levels, the gradients from Mount Kellett Ridge being comparatively easy, and the old road will be relegated to Chinese coolies.

Mr. Cooper has rightly recognised the importance of the mechanical principle that "what is lost in time is gained in power," and has laid out an admirable scheme of a road, with a very easy gradient throughout. This will be exceedingly attractive, and together with the Kellett Ridge will form a most popular promenade, but it might not be amiss to make the road in two sections, commencing with the upper or longer portion from where Mr. Cooper's line diverges from the present road to the top, and leaving the lower end, with its walling and filling in until the Admiralty are prepared to level their site above. For this the making of the road below would be their opportunity, as affording a place for a large quantity of earth and stone the disposal of which would otherwise be next to impossible. The Admiralty site is beautifully placed, commanding a magnificent outlook over the harbour and shipping on the one side and the archipelago of islands on the other, which is directly open to the south-west summer breezes, and here suitable quarters should be forthwith provided for the Admiral upon this important station. The site, however, is limited, and, on account of the precipitous character of the ground, to develop it well a considerable amount of cutting is required. This work is cheaply done if the soil and stones can be simply tipped down the hill, but if these have to be carried away, the cost would be altogether prohibitory, indeed it may be confidently asserted, from the position and surroundings of the property, that if the Admiralty site is not made in connexion with the proposed new road, it can never be fully availed of in any other way. I am advised that the upper portion of the proposed new road, or nearly three-fourths of its length, which would supersede the useless and unnecessary ascent and descent of 130 feet at Plunkett's Gap, could be made in the careful manner recommended by the Director of Public Works at a cost not exceeding \$6,000 and that if the Admiralty site above should be simultaneously cut the debris cast out might be advantageously utilized towards lessening the cost of the lower portion. However, four months out of six which are annually available for such work will be past before operations can be commenced, and perhaps the better plan would be to postpone



operations until next October, when the upper portion of the proposed new road should be at once commenced.

Perhaps His Excellency Sir Wm. Robinson, who is believed to be favourably disposed towards this improvement, might be willing to open communications with the Admiralty upon the subject of their site, and to give to the numerous and influential memorialists some assurance to this effect at the next Council meeting.—I am, sir, yours faithfully.

ANOTHER PEDESTRIAN.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1896.

### THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—With reference to the report of the opening ceremonies in connection with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, we think it right to state publicly that though we are both joint Trustees of that Institution, we had no hand in making the arrangements for its opening, neither did we take any part in the ceremonies, nor were we present on that special occasion. It is needless to say that being British subjects we would not in any way countenance such proceedings as reported. We are, yours faithfully,

HO KAI.  
WEI YUK.

Hongkong, 18th January, 1896.

### THE SHANGHAI-SOOCHOW RAILWAY.

It is reported, upon what seems to be good authority, that the Liangkang Viceregal Government has given the construction of the Shanghai-Soochow Railway to a cosmopolitan syndicate, at the head of which is a Belgian. The Chinese are to borrow the money for construction from the syndicate, the loan to be repaid in instalments beginning from the third or fourth year after trains have commenced running between the two cities. The object of this is to make the railroad obstructionists in Peking believe that Chinese capital has been employed in the construction of the road. The terminus of this railway is to be at Sinzu (Chinese territory), where also will be the freight and passenger offices of the semi-government steamboat line to run between Shanghai, Soochow, and Hangchow. This may account for the eager buying lately of so much land in the vicinity of Sinzu and West Shanghai by native land speculators. *Appropos* of Chinese railways it appears that the obstructionists in Peking are already beginning their opposition. It is asserted that H.E. Hu Yu-fen, Director-General of Construction of the Tientsin-Peking Railway and Governor of Peking has been recently denounced by a Censor (whose memorial is evidently inspired). The charge is "intended speculation." That is to say, the Censor, a man named Chu, contends that it has so far cost China only Tls. 800 for the construction of every li of railroad, whereas in his estimate presented to the Throne Hu Yu-fen has charged Tls. 1,200 per li—"a speculation of Tls. 400 per li." The denouncing Censor is evidently not very well versed in the cost of railway building.—*N. C. Daily News.*

### THE JAPANESE BUDGET FOR 1896.

The Japanese Budget for 1896, as submitted to the Imperial Parliament, stands briefly as follows:—

	REVENUE.	yen.
Ordinary	94,403,333.523	
Extraordinary	43,667,343.965	
Total	138,070,677.488	
	EXPENDITURE.	yen.
Ordinary	89,209,676.239	
Extraordinary	62,861,787.083	
Total	152,071,463.322	

Compared with the current year's Budget, the above shows an increase of about 4,000,000 yen in the revenue and about 63,000,000 yen in the expenditure. The army absorbs about 36 million and the navy about 37 million yen.

### THE SHANGHAI GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce held at the offices, No. 1, Kiukiang Road, on Monday, the 16th January, 1896, at 4 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. P. MacEwan (Chairman), J. Chapsal, C. J. Dudgeon, A. Korff, W. D. Little, J. H. McMichael, D. M. Moses, A. Wasserfall, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

The International Telegraph Vocabulary.—A letter was read that had been received from the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce enclosing copy of a reply received by them from the General Post Office Authorities in London, explaining how the joint protest forwarded by the Hongkong Chamber had been dealt with.

The Yangtze Regulations and Ocean Steam Companies.—A letter signed by all the Ocean Steamer Companies complaining of the trouble occasioned by the Yangtze Regulations was read, and it was decided to address the Senior Consul on the subject in the hope that a revision of the Regulations can be effected which will dispose of the cause of complaint.

Bonded Warehouses.—The question was again before the meeting, but it was decided to defer any further discussion until the annual general meeting, when it was hoped some expression of opinion on the matter would be obtained from the members.

After the transaction of further business the following correspondence was ordered for publication:—

#### THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH VOCABULARY.

Shanghai, 6th December, 1895.

DEAR SIR.—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd of November, enclosing copy of a communication made by your Chamber to the International Telegraph Bureau, Berne, on the subject of the enforced use in the Far East of the Telegraph Vocabulary, which has been carefully considered by my Committee.

Following the initiative of this Chamber, the Hongkong Chamber drew up a letter against the enforced use of the Telegraph Vocabulary, which was signed by this and other Chambers of China and Japan and forwarded to Berne as a joint protest some months ago, but the communication of your Chamber deals so ably, and exhaustively with the subject that my Committee have acceded with pleasure to your request for co-operation, and have forwarded a letter endorsing your protest to the Secretary of the International Telegraph Bureau at Berne, a copy of which I now enclose.—I am, Dear Sir, Yours faithfully.

DEUMMOND HAY.  
Secretary

ALEX. J. GUNN, Esq.,  
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Singapore.

Shanghai, 6th December, 1895.

Sir.—Some months ago this Chamber, in conjunction with several other Chambers of China and Japan, signed a protest drawn up by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce against the enforced use in the Far East of the International Telegraph Vocabulary, but quite recently I received from the Singapore Chamber a copy of a communication addressed you on this subject under date of the 2nd of November, which deals so thoroughly with the whole question, and points out so conclusively the serious issues which would result to the mercantile community by the enforced use of the International Telegraph Code, that notwithstanding the protest sent to you through Hongkong, the Committee of this Chamber are unanimous in their desire to completely endorse the statements contained in the letter addressed to you by the Singapore Chamber.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

A. P. MACEWAN.  
Chairman.

The Secretary,  
International Telegraph Bureau, Berne.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,  
Hongkong, 6th January, 1896.

DEAR SIR.—Enclosed I beg to hand copy of a letter from the General Post Office Authorities, London, informing the Chamber that the joint petition against the suggested enforced use of the Official Vocabulary in Extra-European Messages had, for reasons explained in the letter, been passed on by the Director of the International Telegraph Bureau to the London Post Office Authorities.

It is promised that the petition will receive attentive consideration at the hands of the Post Office Authorities with, it is to be hoped, satisfactory results.—I am, Dear Sir, Yours obediently,

F. HENDERSON,  
Secretary.

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.

Copy.

General Post Office, London,  
21st November, 1895.

SIR.—The Director of the International Telegraph Bureau at Berne has forwarded to this Department the memorial from the Chambers of Commerce at Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Yokohama, Hiogo, Poochow, and Amoy, objecting to the enforced use of the Official Vocabulary in Extra-European telegrams.

At the same time he has pointed out that the International Bureau has no authority to take official cognisance of any representation excepting such as proceed from one of the countries of the Union.

Having regard to the length of time which must elapse before a reply could be received from the Chambers of Commerce concerned, this Department has thought that it would be best to be carrying out their wishes if it agreed at once to accept the memorial, with a view to its receiving attentive consideration along with the memorials on the same subject which have been sent by other Chambers direct to this office.

I trust that in the circumstances the course which this Department has adopted will meet with the approval of the Chambers of Commerce of the Far East.—I am, Sir, Your obedient servant.

(Signed) J. C. LAMB.

The Chairman.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

#### THE YANGTZE REGULATIONS AND OCEAN STEAMER COMPANIES.

Shanghai, 30th December.

SIR.—We beg to bring to your notice the great inconvenience which is experienced by the Ocean Steamer Companies, in consequence of the regulation which obliges us to have all cargo shipped on through bill of lading to the river ports, examined here and duty paid before the goods can be forwarded to destination.

The consignees of this cargo are, in many cases, resident in the interior of China, and considerable delay and difficulty is experienced in tracing them, while the actual passing of the goods through the Customs entails an amount of additional labour which we would be glad to be relieved of.

The present "Revised Regulations of Trade on the Yangtze" were drawn up in the year 1862 (British Legation, 10th November, 1862, Article 5, Section 2) and owing to the then disturbed state of the country bordering on the Yangtze it was no doubt indispensable that all cargo for the river ports should be examined here.

This necessity, however, no longer exists, and as a complete Customs staff is now maintained at the various treaty ports on the Yangtze, the present condition of affairs is merely a vexatious hindrance to trade. That through cargo for the river ports must be detained here for examination, while that for the neighbouring treaty ports on the coast can be transhipped direct to the local steamers, and dealt with by the I. M. Customs on arrival at final port of destination, is an anomaly which might be rectified with advantage to all concerned.

We would therefore request you to be good enough to give this question your consideration, and trust that you will be able to have the



matter satisfactorily adjusted by making representation to the proper quarter.—We are, Sir, Your obedient servants.

EDBERT A. HEWETT.

Acting Agent, P. & O. S. N. Co.

MELCHERS & Co.,

Agents, Norddeutscher Lloyd.

J. CHAPSAI,

Agent, Messageries Maritimes Cie.

THE CHINA MUTUAL S. N. Co., LTD.

Geo. Sutherland, Acting Agent.

ARNOLD KARBURG & Co.,

Agents, Shell Line.

p. pro. DODWELL CARLILL & Co.,

O. MEUSER.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Agents, "Ben" Line Steamers.

DAVID, SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Agents, Austrian Lloyd's S.N. Co.

p. pro. SIEMSEN & Co.

A. WASSERFALL.

p. pro. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

A. W. DICKSON.

Agents, Canadian Pacific R. Co.

"Glen" Line Steamers

J. GRAHAM.

Assist. Manager, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Agents, Ocean S.S. Co.

A. P. MAC EWEN, Esq., Chairman General, Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.

### HONGKONG.

The weather during the past week has been most seasonable and outdoor exercise has been indulged in very largely. On Thursday the Sanitary Board met, and at the Police Court on the same day a well-known Chinaman was sent to prison for seven days for using insulting language in the Court. He gave notice of appeal. On Friday the Chinese Chamber of Commerce was opened by a Chinese official with Chinese rites. On Saturday His Excellency the Governor laid the foundation stone of the new home for women and children which is being built by the Po Leung Kuk Society. On Monday the annual meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong High Level Tramways Co., Limited, was held. On Monday night, as the *On Sang* was coming into the harbour, she ran on a rock. The ship was thereupon beached.

H.M.S. *Humber*, storeship, arrived at Hongkong on Saturday.

H.M.S. *Narcissus* was expected to leave Singapore on the 17th inst. for Hongkong.

It is probable that Mr. Justice Wise (Puisne Judge) will go home on leave next April.

There were 1,879 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 152 were Europeans.

A match at Hongham was burnt to the ground on Sunday night, and damage to the amount of \$30 was the result.

At the Magistracy on the 15th Jan. before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, a man was fined \$50, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment, for injecting morphine. He went to prison.

Another seaman on the *Highland Forest* was sent to goal on the 16th Jan. for seven days by the Harbour Master. The defendant's name is C. Sorensen and he left the ship without leave and also refused to work.

Saturday was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the proclamation of the German Empire. A general salute was fired at noon in honour of the occasion and in the evening there was a dinner at the German Club.

The match between the *Centurion* and C Company of the Rifle Brigade in the third round of the Football Cup competition took place on Saturday and resulted in a victory for the sailors by one goal to nil.

The newly erected hall of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce was opened on the 17th Jan. with the usual native ceremonies. Colonel Chun, the military commandant of Kowloon, was present and took the principal part in the dedication of the building.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Poultry Guild	\$40
Steamer <i>Namoa</i> : Fines	4

At the Marine Magistrate's Court on the 15th Jan. before Hon. R. M. Rumsey, Richard Lilly, seaman on the British barque *Highland Forest*, was sent to goal for seven days for absconding himself from the ship without leave and also for refusing to obey the lawful commands of the master.

The accounts of St. John's Cathedral for 1895 show that the receipts were \$7,995 and the expenditure \$7,937. A balance of \$135 was brought forward from 1894 and the amount carried forward to 1896 is \$193. The amount on fixed deposit has been increased from \$2,900 to \$3,059 by the addition of interest.

The claims paid by Fire Insurance Companies in respect of Hongkong risks in 1895 amounted, we hear, to over \$700,000. The year is understood to have been a good one for the local Companies, but if the above figures are correct some of the home Companies must have suffered rather heavily in proportion to their local income.

The Hon. Treasurer of the *Edgar* Relief Fund begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation:—

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. Limited	\$100
Brought Forward	882

Total up to date	982
------------------	-----

Shortly after six o'clock on the 16th Jan. the steamer *Powan* went aground just after passing the barrier at Canton. A junk got in the way of the steamer, which was steered round, and she then got aground. Fortunately no damage was done to the vessel, but there was a delay of six hours in reaching her destination.

At the Magistracy on the 16th Jan. Mr. T. Sercombe Smith held the inquiry concerning the death of the little boy who was strangled in Richmond Road. There was a curious discrepancy in the evidence. The mother of the lad said he left home wearing a silver anklet about four o'clock on the afternoon of the 11th inst., while a pawnbroker in Queen's Road said the anklet was pawned by a boy at 2.30 the same afternoon. His Worship found that the boy had been strangled to death, but by whom there was no evidence to show.

Two German seamen on the *Kayserbrunne* were charged at the Police Court on Saturday with assaulting a sampan woman. They took a sampan and because they thought they were being taken to the wrong steamer they struck the woman and one of the men pointed a loaded revolver at her. P. C. Barron heard the disturbance, and putting off in a sampan arrested the men. The prisoner who presented the revolver was sent to goal for four months and the other man was fined \$25, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.

About 11.40 p.m. on the 15th Jan. the roof of a building in the Mosque compound, occupied by several poverty stricken Mahomedans, collapsed. Three men were buried in the fallen brickwork, and they were rescued by several Portuguese residents who quickly volunteered assistance, and also by the police. Two of the men sustained a shock to the system and one received a severe cut on his head. They were first of all attended to by Dr. Marques, who visited the scene of the accident as soon as he could, and were then sent to the hospital, where they were detained.

Property in Hongkong does not yield a very remunerative rate of interest, judging from the report of the Land Investment Company. The balance sheet shows a sum of \$1,797,736 invested in property and the rents shown in the profit and loss account amount to \$74,682, which gives a return of 4.15 per cent. The amount advanced on mortgage is \$2,512,624, and the interest shown in profit and loss account amounts to \$166,277, giving a return of 6.61 per cent. The capital and reserve fund of the Company amount together to \$3,750,000 and the net income, after deducting all charges, including directors' fees, amounts to \$212,420, or 5.66 per cent. The dividend of 8 per cent. on the capital cannot be looked upon as a very handsome return by those of the shareholders who took up the second issue at a hundred per cent. premium. The Company has, however, a considerable amount of undeveloped property, which will be made to yield a return in course of time.

Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General) will act as Chief Justice until the arrival of Mr. Carrington, who takes Sir Fielding Clarke's position, and Mr. H. E. Pollock will act as Attorney-General. Both gentlemen were sworn in on the 16th Jan. It is not yet known when Mr. Carrington will arrive in the colony. He is expected to leave British Guiana on the 22nd inst. He will go direct to England, and at the earliest he cannot arrive here until the end of March, but it is expected that he will take a holiday before coming out, so that he may not be here until the end of the summer.

On the night of the 16th Jan. a fire broke out in a basement room of the old Victoria Hotel building which was filled with thousands of new baskets which had come from Canton for the Cheung Lee firm. How the fire originated is a mystery. Fortunately the outbreak was not a serious one and the Fire Brigade quickly controlled it. The hotel building itself, which is owned by Messrs. Sassoon and Chater, is insured with the Northern Assurance Co. (Messrs. Turner & Co., agents) for \$30,000. Messrs. Shewan & Co. also have a line of \$40,000 on the block, and the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. one of \$30,000.

At the Police Court on the 17th Jan. two men were charged with taking part in a robbery with violence at Quarry Bay. Early on the morning of the 14th inst. three men armed with revolvers entered a shop used as a branch store by the opium farmers and bound up the inmates, two in number. The gang then rifled the premises and took away \$119 and \$25 worth of opium. The police were informed of the occurrence, and on Thursday night, the 16th inst., a Chinese detective arrested two men who have been identified as having taken an active part in the robbery. They were brought up at the Police Court the following day and remanded for further inquiries to be made.

The Registrar-General's returns of births and deaths for the fourth quarter of 1895 show that in the British and Foreign community the annual birth-rate was 25 per thousand and the death-rate 18.02, while in the Chinese population the birth-rate was 6.18 and the death-rate 27.69. The Sanitary Board's returns of deaths for the month of December are also published in Saturday's *Gazette* and give the rate for the British and Foreign community, civil population, as 31.3 and for the Chinese community 27.9. Adding the figures for the last three months together the rate is 24.66. The more favourable rate shown by the Registrar-General's returns is due to the inclusion of the garrison.

At two o'clock on the morning of the 15th Jan. a coolie was wheeling a barrow along the Praya, near Kennedytown. He was very sleepy and he tried to do what he could not—sleep and work at the same time. He shut his eyes and kept on wheeling when suddenly the barrow turned itself into the sea. The somnolent one of course followed and he then opened his eyes and screamed. Fortunately two Indian policemen heard the cries for help, and one of them—No. 515—jumped in after him and held his head out of the water, while the other—No. 513—unrolled his turban and threw it out to the coolie, who clutched hold of it and was brought safely to the shore. The conduct of the two policemen deserves recognition.

On the 15th Jan. at 2.45 a.m., a fire broke out in the cook house of 30, Winglok Street, a piece goods shop, and spread with such rapidity that 111, Praya Central, which backs the house, was destroyed, and the top floors at 110 and 112, Praya Central, also piece goods shops, were completely burnt out, and the other floors were damaged by water. The Fire Brigade, under Hon. Commander Hastings and Mr. Badeley, turned out as quickly as possible, and tried hard to prevent the flames from spreading, but a strong wind was blowing and this materially assisted the progress of the fire. The shop where the fire originated was insured with Messrs. Schellass and Co. for \$8,000, and also with Messrs. Sander and Co. for \$1,000.

Despatches received at Shanghai from Tientsin state that a large number of artisans and dockyard men who belonged before the war to the Port Arthur works and who have been awaiting re-employment at Tientsin have started for the retroceded port to repair the damages done by the Japanese.



## CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The 2nd proximo has been appointed for all the officers to close their seals, which are not to be taken out again till 2nd March. All the officers will have one month's New-year holiday and during that period they will pay no attention to public affairs, except in cases of murder, kidnapping, serious robbery, and marriage by force. These four crimes are regarded by the Chinese Government as very serious and next to treason, and the perpetrators are to be decapitated.

The coffin and the family of the late Provincial Treasurer will be conveyed to Tientsin by a steamer on the 23rd inst. A civil and a military officer have been ordered by the Viceroy to accompany them.

A San-Sz named Au-Ka-Lin, who passed the examination of the third degree lately and has just had conferred upon him the title of Hon-Lam, held a feast in celebration of his success, which was attended by all the local officers and many San-Sz. in his house in the village of Mak-on, near Chan-Chuen on the 4th inst. In front of the house a theatrical performance took place. Just in the midst of the mirth a band of about fifty men under the pretence of being singers and musicians got into the house and then drove all the guests and the other inmates to a corner and tied them up. They then hunted out all the valuables to the value of eight thousand dollars. At last it became known, and the policemen rushed forward and met the robbers, who had just come out from the robbed house. The robbers fired at the policemen first. Three of the latter were seriously wounded and one was shot dead. The scoundrels then safely disappeared. None of them were captured, killed, or wounded.

The Tartar General drills his soldiers every day on the parade ground outside the East Gate. He also pays visits to all the police-stations inside the city every night.

A man who has just come back from California arrived at Canton last week and stopped at an inn. One day some likin people got into the inn and seized the man's box, and said that there must be some illicit glass in his box which had not paid the likin tax. They then took the man and his box to a glass shop named Yu-On. After the poor man had been detained in the glass shop for about an hour, he saw a military officer passing along and he at once shouted out to him for assistance. The military officer came into the shop and as the thing was told to him, he opened the man's box, where there were only a few pieces of clothing. The man told the military officer that his box contained several hundred dollars, a gold armlet, and a diamond ring. The military officer sent all the people belonging to the glass shop to the Nam-hoi Magistrate and sealed up the glass shop.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Cattle disease has broken out in the vicinity of both Kobe and Yokohama.

The Englishmen at Kobe have decided to celebrate St. George's Day by giving a ball, instant.

The sum collected in Shanghai for the Edgar Relief Fund amounts, with \$55 collected from the Wuhu community, to \$1,114.44.

According to a communication received by the Japanese Government from the U.S. Minister in Tokyo the post of Naval Attaché in the U.S. Legation in Tokyo has been abolished, and Commander F. M. Barber no longer holds that position.

Three Chinese servants of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Tientsin were found dead in their sleeping room in the last week of December, having been asphyxiated by the fumes of the coal used to warm the kang upon which they slept.

Owing to the appreciation of copper cash, one Mexican dollar exchanging for 940 cash, which is the lowest point to which silver has fallen at Shanghai, the Taotai has issued special instructions to the Mixed Court Magistrates to stop the native banks from exporting cash on pain of a heavy fine.

The cable to be shortly laid between Kago-shima and Formosa is expected to arrive at Nagasaki about the 23rd instant, per the steamer *Eton*.

We (*Mercury*) very much regret to state that a sad accident occurred at Tientsin on New Year's day, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury, of the American Mission, while skating on the river, fell through the ice. The body was rescued by some of the French sailors after being under water for half-an-hour, and could not be resuscitated.

As one of the indications of the rapid growth of Shanghai the *N. C. Daily News* mentions that 2,300 calls passed through the Telephone Exchange on Monday, 13th January. This is the largest number in one day on record, and kept four operators at work from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., whereas formerly one operator could deal with all the calls in one day.

A sad occurrence has been brought to our notice, says the *Shanghai Mercury*. On Friday morning, 10th January, at five minutes to ten, as the steamer *Wuhu*, one of Butterfield & Swire's new boats, was lying alongside the Old Ningpo Wharf, the chief steward, a man by the name of Hugh Graham, threw himself overboard. Immediate efforts were made to rescue him by throwing lifebuoys, but they proved unavailing, and the man sank. Circumstances point to suicide.

From the *N. C. Daily News* we learn that, in obedience to instructions from the Throne, the Viceroy Chang has sent down to Shanghai two Taotais, Chün-chiang and Hsü Chong-hu, and a prefect, Chu Hui-chih, to prepare a complete inventory of the Kiangnan arsenal there and to make suggestions as to more economical management of the works in the future. Work was to be stopped on the 15th instant to enable the necessary inventory to be taken, which will occupy some time.

A chequered career in truth was that of the Queen of Korea at its close. Less than two months ago the unfortunate lady's corpse lay hacked and charred in a well; she was proclaimed a traitress, an agent of evil, a perverter of official morality; her rank was taken from her, and even decent burial was denied to her. To-day, she has the posthumous titles of "Guileless, Reverential," a temple, called "Virtue, Accomplishment," is dedicated to her memory; her tomb is named "The Solemn Sepulchre," and twenty-two officials of the highest rank are engaged in composing and writing her biography, her eulogy, and her threnody. *Japan Mail*.

At the regular meeting of the Lodge the Etoile du Tonkin, Grand Orient de France, held on the 4th inst. in the Masonic Temple, Rue Francis Garnier, Haiphong, Bro. W. C. Jack was installed as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. The following is the list of officers: Ven. Bro. W. C. Jack: First Sen. Bro. F. Durupt; Second Sen. Bro. E. Labour; Orator, Bro. W. Labour; Sec., Bro. E. Boutelet; Grd. Exp., Bro. M. Chp.; Treas., Bro. R. Flint; Hosp., Bro. G. Vlaneanos; I.G., Bro. E. Lorimer; Steward, Bro. G. Breton. After the installation the annual banquet was held in the Lodge, the usual masonic toasts being duly honoured.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 11th inst. says:—The Chinese torpedo catcher *Fei yang*, built by the Vulcan Steamship Building Company of Stuttgart, arrived here on the 11th ult. She was brought out by Captain Hugo Koch, a chief officer of the Imperial German mail line. After docking she made her trial trip on the 11th inst. Besides the captain and crew sent down from Tientsin to take charge of her, she had on board a commander of the Chinese Navy and the Harbour Master, and the trial was a complete success, as she ran twenty-four miles in the hour without a hitch of any kind. A gun practice took place subsequently to test the strength of her decks, broadsides being fired, and all went satisfactorily. On her return into the river a dinner was given on board. We understand that the Chinese Naval Commander was so well pleased that he telegraphed his satisfaction to the Vulcan Company the same evening. We should mention that by the desire of the Tientsin authorities the whole of the vessel's eight boilers were in use on this trial trip.

For a record of domestic misfortune the following, which we take from the *China Gazette* of the 15th January, would be hard to beat:—The peculiarly painful case in which a missionary named Himle lost two of his little children from smallpox a fortnight ago, after having gone through scarlet fever and diphtheria, has been accentuated by the mother, who developed typhoid while nursing one of the children, now having contracted smallpox. She has again been sent back to the hospital.

The Peking correspondent of the *Mercury*, writing on the 27th December, says:—At last the Tientsin river has closed, so "Here we are again" (as the clown says), boxed up until March "comes in like a lion." How to keep the peace meanwhile is the question! True, the Financiers, bar one, have flown, thereby averting a sanguinary and terrible civil war! Apropos, base rumour has it that at one critical period of the philanthropic crisis to assist this effete Empire blood was very nearly spilled. Islaski! "All's well that ends well."

## COMMERCIAL.

## TEA.

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao .....	7,319,845	7,431,215
Amoy .....	459,419	740,767
Foochow .....	11,175,408	11,357,248
Shanghai and Hankow .....	21,111,512	21,591,429
	40,055,184	44,123,758

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Amoy .....	11,834,331	16,894,081
Foochow .....	6,666,651	4,626,555
Shanghai .....	29,029,320	25,796,160
	46,530,302	47,316,796

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO OCEANIA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai .....	27,210,763	22,775,223

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama .....	29,339,013	28,078,376
Kobe .....	18,377,248	16,235,648
	47,766,261	44,314,024

## SILK.

SHANGHAI, 16th January.—(From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's circular.)—London telegrams to the 14th instant report the market quiet, Gold Killing 8/0, Blue Elephant 10/6. Raw Silk.—Settlements do not amount to any large figure. Still some business has been done in the lower grades of Tsatlees and Yellow Silks. The rise in exchange has, however, put a stop to business. The nature of the advices from the consuming districts continues unsatisfactory. Tsatlees.—Purchases for the week amount to about 300 bales. Gold Killings have been booked at Tls. 335. Taysams.—Coarse Silks have been dealt in to a small extent, but a larger business would have been done were the Chinese not asking higher rates, and stock of desirable lots very small. Yellow Silks.—The demand continues good, particularly for the Asiatic markets, prices show in some instance an advance. Arrivals, as per Custom House Returns from 9th to 15th January are 840 bales of White Silk, 199 bales of Yellow and 239 bales of Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—No fresh business to report. Waste Silk.—No business to report. Pongees.—1,000 pieces Shantung Pongees 19/19½ inches, 19/19½ yards, 24 oz. at Tls. 8.2½.

Purchases include:—Tsatlees.—Mountain 4 at Tls. 375 per picul, Gold Killing at Tls. 335, Yaconlay Seeling at Tls. 335. Hangchow Tsatlees.—Lanchar at Tls. 350. Taysam.—Green Kaling Y. V. C. Chayling at Tls. 347½. Green Kaling Gr. Almond Flower at Tls. 322½. Yellow Silks.—Mienchew at Tls. 247½ to Tls. 260, Meeyang at Tls. 227½ to Tls. 250.



## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai.....	44,022	35,129
Canton.....	11,950	11,008
Yokohama.....	15,223	13,680
	71,195	58,817

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Canton.....	8,907	6,146
Shanghai.....	7,503	6,085
Yokohama.....	23,679	20,190
	39,797	32,001

## AMERICA.

Hongkong, 21st January.—There is little change to report in the condition of the market. Quotation for Formosa are \$78.0 to \$78.50. During the past week sales have been 200 piculs.

## S.

Hongkong, 21st January.—The market is still very weak and prices continue to decline. Following are the quotations:—

Shenklong, No. 1, White...	\$7.34 to 7.37 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.77 to 6.80 "
Shenklong, No. 1, Brown...	4.72 to 4.75 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.60 to 4.62 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	6.20 to 7.23 "
do. " 2, White...	6.70 to 6.74 "
do. " 1, Brown...	4.62 to 4.65 "
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.54 to 4.58 "
Kochow Sugar Candy.....	10.80 to 10.85 "
Shenklong ".....	9.72 to 9.75 "

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Pectan*, Hongkong to London, 10th January, took:—100 cases Bristles; for Havre:—1 roll Matting Sam, 4 cases Chinaware, 10 cases Human Hair, 2 cases Bristles, and 33 bales Canes; for Hamburg:—2 cases China Ink, 6 cases P. L. Fans, 10 cases Aniseed Oil, 13 cases Essential Oil, 37 bales Canes, 40 cases Cassia Oil, 89 bales Mer handse, 100 bales Rattan shavings, and 20 bales Feathers; for Havre and/or Hamburg:—500 bales Broken Cassia; for Havre and/or London and/or Hamburg:—20 cases Bristles, and 2,75 cases Camphor.

The British steamer *Pakling*, Hongkong to London, 11th January, took:—410 boxes Tea (6,510 lbs. Congou, 2,100 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe), 15 rolls Matting, 150 cases Preserves, 100 cases Fans, 93 cases M. O. P. Shells, 37 cases Blackwood Ware, and 23 packages Merchandise; for London and/or Manchester:—112 bales Waste Silk; for Glasgow:—76 cases Blackwood Ware; for Buenos Ayres:—20 packages Tea (unknown); for Glasgow:—2 cases Cigars.

The German steamer *Gerda*, Hongkong to Havre, 14th January, took:—653 rolls Matting, 8 packages Tea, 23 cases Human Hair, 35 cases Bristles, 5 cases Blackwoodware, 20 cases Paper 253 bales Canes, 3 boxes Feathers, 12 cases Chinaware, and 1 bale Twine; for Havre option Hamburg:—135 rolls Matting, 10 cases Human Hair, 210 cases Camphor, 10 bales Bamboo scraps, and 274 bales Canes; for Havre option Hamburg option London:—100 cases Camphor; for Hamburg:—751 packages Tea, 428 cases Camphor, 324 packages Canes, 23 bales Rattanware, 35 rolls Matting, 48 cases Palmleaf fans, 1,000 cases Canes, 67 cases Bristles, 3 cases Silks 1 case Feathers 30 bales Rattan shavings, 10 cases Camphor wood trunks, and 19 packages Sandries; for Hamburg option London:—20 cases Bristles.

The steamer *Polyphamus*, Hongkong to New York, 14th January, took:—2 packages Sunderis, 9 cases Human Hair, 20 cases Vermilion, and 6,304 rolls Matting.

The P. & O. steamer *Mazagon*, Hongkong to London, 15th January, took:—7,996 bales Hemp, 436 packages Tea, 9 cases Silk Piece Goods, 160 bales Waste Silk, 20 packages Camphorwood trunk, 258 rolls Matting, 160 cases Leaf Fans, 75 bales Canes, 6 cases Cigar, 40 cases Bristles, 750 cases Preserves, 601 cases Preserves, 100 Soy, 36 packages, 2,982 boxes Tea (38,052 Congou, 24,570 Scented Capers).

The P. & O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*, Hongkong to London, 16th January, took:—9 cases Silk Piece Goods, 4 cases Floss Silk, and 17 cases Sun-

dries; for Gibraltar:—3 packages Sandries; for France:—217 bales Raw Silk, 301 boxes Tea, and 15 packages Hair; for Milan:—90 bales Raw Silk; for Odessa:—20 bales Raw Silk.

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG 21st January.—Bengal.—Owing to an improvement in the demand there has been an advance in prices, and the market closes at \$770 for New Patna, \$772½ for Old Patna, \$750 for New Benares, and \$770 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—There has not been any change in the market during the interval and prices close at \$740 with allowance from ¼ to 1½ cetties for both New and Old descriptions.

Persian.—There has been a small sale of Oily Opium during the past week and latest figures are \$610 to \$670. Paper-wrapped descriptions are quoted at \$700 to \$710 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna.....	120 chests
Old Patna.....	1,720 "
New Benares.....	280 "
Old Benares.....	530 "
Malwa.....	280 "
Persian.....	1,140 "

## COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 16	757½	770	747½	760	740	740
Jan. 17	770	770	752½	767½	740	740
Jan. 18	772½	775	752½	770	740	740
Jan. 19	772½	775	752½	770	740	740
Jan. 20	772½	777½	752½	772½	740	740
Jan. 21	770	772½	750	770	740	740

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 21st January.—Owing to larger supplies having come forward the market is a little easier. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.23 to 2.25
.. Round, good quality.....	2.33 to 2.50
.. Long.....	2.62 to 2.65
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2.....	2.35 to 2.40
.. Garden, .. No. 1.....	2.75 to 2.78
Siam, White.....	3.17 to 3.20
.. Fine Cargo.....	3.32 to 3.35

## COALS.

HONGKONG, 21st January.—No change. Market quiet. Quotations are:—

Cardiff.....	\$12.00 to 13.00 ex ship, nominal.
Australian.....	7.50 to 8.00 ex ship, nominal.
Mike Lump.....	\$5.75 to 6.00 ex ship, nominal.
Mike Small.....	5.00 to — ex ship, nominal.
Mohi Lump.....	4.00 to 5.50 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Lump.....	6.00 to 7.00 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Small.....	4.00 to 4.50 ex ship, nominal.

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 21st January.—Amongst the sale reported are the following:—

COTTON AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarns.—275 bales No. 16 at \$72 to \$78.50, 800 bales No. 12 at \$2 to \$77.50, 25 bales No. 16 at \$9.50, 280 bales No. 20 at \$35.50 to \$92. White Shirtings—1,000 pieces Red Dragon at \$2.82½, 250 pieces D 70 at \$3.50. T-Cloths.—2,000 pieces 64 lbs. Red Pagoda at \$1.20, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.40. Turkey Reds.—200 pieces 5 lbs. Clock at \$3.10.

METAL.—Iron.—20 packages wire nail iron at \$4.74. Yellow Metals.—30 cases Elliot 14/20 oz at \$24.25. Tin.—50 slabs Siam at \$35.40. Quicksilver.—70 flasks at \$118. Spelter.—20 packages at \$11.50.

SHANGHAI, 16th January.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noel's report.)—The market is quiet but has ruled steady throughout the week, holders being assisted somewhat by the fitful improvement in Sterling rates in effecting a few sales, mostly for delivery at the commencement of the new season however. As usual the natives were somewhat disconcerted by this sudden advance in exchange, but it was too short-lived to make much impression, and the collapse to-day has convinced them that the great rise they seem to dread has not yet commenced, and are therefore more disposed to offer for goods. This, however, is counteracted by the unwillingness of the Banks to quote rates beyond the end of this "moon," which must stop business, as importers cannot afford to accept the low prices that are offering, as a rule, for cash this year. Judging by the advices received from

the Outports too, the dealers there are evidently preparing for the annual settling already, and are not sending orders forward, everything thus pointing to an early closing of the trade for this season. This has naturally had a weakening tendency on prices at auction, especially noticeable this morning, as the "prompts" have not as yet been extended. The customary enquiry for Woollens at this time of the year is springing up, but so far is confined to Long-Kills, a fair quantity of which have been settled during the last few days.

Metal, and Miscellaneous.—(From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's report.)—17th January.—During the last few months the tendency has been to make up for lost ground, and the figures for July-December show a considerably larger average import than for the corresponding periods in previous years, but as the totals for 1895 evidence, there is still a heavy margin on the wrong side to be made up. Deliveries generally have of late been exceptionally good, and in Sundries were larger for the last week of 1895 and first week of 1896, than for any two weeks in the whole of the last five years, showing a briskness usually absent at this port. The re-exports during the last six months have been very good and seem to prove that districts which have been kept bare of supplies during the war are now anxiously demanding fulfilment of their wants, an evidence of returning trade and good times that is welcome. Business this last week has not been very brisk generally speaking. A further advance has been effected at home for Nailrods—present quotations being 109s. 6d. to 110s. for Sohiers Exp. and 113s. 6d. for Griffin, and sales have been made of some 600 tons, thus establishing the rise on this side. Lead is quoted easier at £12 5s. 0d. c.i.f. for L.B. but no sales are reported. Buyers have been asking for Enthoven but as their idea of price are below cost nothing has yet been booked. Pig Iron.—Redcar No. 3 has been offered at 68s. to 59s. c.i.f., and I hear a contract has been made for 150 tons. Copper and Yellow Metal Smeeting.—An advance on present low home prices seems likely, but dealers are still holding back. "Spot" cargo being offered at 11s. 23 50 for Copper 14oz., and up Tinplates.—Nothing new to report. Scrap Material.—Reports from home tell of a firm and upward market. This dealers are beginning to realise so that a good many offers have been forwarded, most of which are still waiting replies. Contracts are reported for Steel Plate Cutting at 78s. to 90s.; London Horse-shoes at 77s.; Glasgow Horse-shoes at 78s. 6d.; Cart Tyres at 53s. 6d.; Scrap Iron at 68s. to 69s.

## JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 21st January.—Business during the week under review has been more than usually slack and we have nothing of any importance to report. The market has ruled unsettled with a tendency to weakness and closes in the same condition.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been quite neglected locally, the quoted rate of 180 per cent. prem. being nominal. A forced sale in Shanghai is reported at 175, but the ruling rate there seems to be the same as ours, i.e., 180 per cent. prem. Nationals continue neglected at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES.—North Chinas have receded to Tls. 220 with sales. Other Marines remain unchanged with small sales, with the exception of Straits, which have changed hands at \$25 and \$24½, closing with buyers at the latter and sellers at the former rate.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs after further sales at \$282½ have advanced to \$287½ with sales; further shares, however, are obtainable at the latter rate. Chinas have ruled a little easier with no sales and an offer of \$91 would doubtless bring out shares.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled neglected, and we have only small sales at \$37 and \$36½ to report. Speculation is rife as to the amount of the approaching dividend, the highest estimate being \$1.50 and the lowest \$1.20 per share. We have every reason to believe that the lowest is the most probable. Douglas's have changed hands at \$51 and rule weakish with probable sellers at that rate. Indo-Chinas have declined to \$57 with small sales. China-Manilas are on offer at \$70.

REFINERIES.—Continue neglected with no business to report.

MINING.—Punjems have changed hands at \$4.80 and \$4.75, closing with buyers at latter rate. A few Charbonnages have been placed at



\$75 and \$72½, closing with buyers at latter rate. Rauba have improved to \$4. Balmorals continue neglected and weak at quotation.

**DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks ruled weak in the early part of the week and sales were effected as low as 146 per cent. prem.; later, however, the market improved and buyers at 147 and 148 could not be satisfied. Some sales have been effected at 149 and market closes steady with an upward tendency at that rate. We have solid grounds for stating that it is the present intention of the directors to deal with the \$500,000 available for distribution, subject to audit, as follows, viz., to pay a dividend of 12 per cent. to shareholders, to place \$200,000 to an equalization dividend fund, to pay about \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, a bonus of 10 per cent. of annual salaries to the employees, and to carry forward about \$60,000 to the new account. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharfs have ruled dull, and sales at \$48½, \$48, and \$47½ have been effected. Wanchai Godowns continue neglected and unchanged.

**LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.**—Lands have found further buyers at \$70, but more shares are obtainable at the rate. Hotels have changed hands at \$19 and close in demand. West Points remain unchanged and neglected.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Watsons have receded to \$11.50 without sales. Electrica have changed hands at \$6.75, Fenwicks at \$20, and Ices at \$101. Other stocks under this heading have ruled neglected and we have nothing to report in them.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
<b>Banks.</b>		(\$50 sellers)
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	100 p. ct. prem., =
China & Japan, pref.	...	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$105, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$10, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$5, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$3, buyers
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$10, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$111
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruickshank & Co.	\$5	\$1
Lairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$9
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$20, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$14, sales
H. Brick and Cement	\$12½	\$6, 0, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric	£8	\$6.75, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$4 ex div., sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$19, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$101
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$47½, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$150, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	149 p. ct. prem., =
<b>Insurance.</b>		(\$3, 1.25 sales)
Canton	\$50	190, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$91
China Traders'	\$2	\$74, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$287½, sales
North-China	£25	Tls. 220, sales
Straits	\$20	\$25, sellers
Union	\$25	\$57, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$120
<b>Land and Building.</b>		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$69, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$10
West Point Building	\$40	\$19
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$59, sellers
<b>Mining.</b>		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$72½, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$2.75, buyers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$1.0
Punjom	\$4	\$4.75, sales & buyers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.60, sales & buyers
Rauba	13s. 10d.	\$4, sellers
<b>Steamship Coys.</b>		
China and Manila	\$50	\$7½, sellers
China Shippers	£5	\$2.10
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$51, sales & sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$20	\$36½, sales
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$57, sales & sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$42, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11½, sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

**SHANGHAI, 17th January.**—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—With exception of a forced sale of a few shares on the 15th

at 175 per cent. premium, no business has been done on our market this week. Shares are not wanted at higher rates, but are not obtainable under 180 per cent. premium, and this we quote as our closing rate. There is no business to report in either National Bank or Bank of China shares. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 42½ and Tls. 43. Docks.—Shares in S. C. Furnham & Co. have been placed at Tls. 188 cash and Tls. 190 for delivery on 29th February. Marine Insurance.—North-China shares were placed, and are offering at Tls. 225. Yangtzes were sold at \$120. Straits have changed hands at \$25½. Cantons are offering at \$190 ex dividend. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs were placed at \$247½ from local holders, and later at \$282½ from Hongkong. Chinas were sold at \$90½ and \$91 from local holders, and at \$91 from Hongkong. Mining.—Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were sold to Hongkong at \$2.75. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd. Shares have been placed at Tls. 36 and Tls. 38. Luzon Sugar Refining shares were sold at \$30 cash and \$33 for 31st March. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares, fully paid up, were sold at Tls. 70. Hongkong Land Investment shares were placed from Hongkong at \$70. Miscellaneous.—Business has been done in Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 99 cash and Tls. 105 for 31st March, Shanghai Langkat shares at Tls. 225 cash at Tls. 245 for 30th April, J. Llewellyn & Co. shares at \$2½, and Hall & Holz shares at \$29 and \$30. Shanghai Waterworks shares and shares in J. Llewellyn & Co. are wanted. Debentures.—Shanghai-Sumatra 70 Debentures were placed at \$77, and \$100 Debentures at \$110. Shanghai Langkat \$100 Debentures were sold at \$110. The accrued interest was paid in addition in all these cases.

Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—80 per cent. prem.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.—Nominal.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, Founders.—Nominal.  
National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—none.  
National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—\$27½.  
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$105.  
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100 per share.  
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 43 per share.  
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co.—Tls. 20 per share.  
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75 per share.  
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$37 per share.  
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$51½ per share.  
Bard & Co., Ltd., 100 shares.—Tls. 300 per share.  
Lloyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 190 per share.  
S. C. Furnham & Co.—Tls. 185 per share.  
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—149 per cent. premium.  
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$73 per sh.  
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 225 per sh.  
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$200 per share.  
Yangtze Insce. Assocn. Ltd.—\$120 per share.  
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$190 per share.  
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—27½ per share.  
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—282½ per sh.  
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—91 per share.  
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 105 per share.  
Bird's Wharf Hbl.-curing and Wool-cleaning company.—Tls. 57 per share.  
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$19 per share.  
Siamma Consolidated Mining and Milling company, Limited.—11½ per share.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$5 per share.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$1.50 per share.  
Jebeu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$24 per share.  
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$24 per share.  
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 207½ per sh.  
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 185 per share.  
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 230 per share.  
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$6.75 per share.  
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 185 per share.  
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 38 per share.  
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$112½ per share.  
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$60 per share.  
Hall & Holz, Ltd.—\$30 per share.  
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70 per share.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$70 per share.  
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$17½.  
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$5½ per share.  
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 32½ per share.  
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 28½ per share.  
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 99 per sh.  
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 225 per share.  
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founder's.—Nominal.  
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 130 per share.  
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$13 per share.  
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—£1.  
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$9 50.  
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40.  
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 47½.  
Laon-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 47½.  
China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company Debentures.—Nominal.  
Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 15.  
Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 275 (a).  
Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Nominal.  
Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 105 (a).  
Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 110 (a).  
(a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

## TUESDAY, 21st January. CLOSING QUOTATIONS. EXCHANGE.

<b>ON LONDON.</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	2 1½
Bank Bills, on demand	2 1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2 1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2 2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2 2½
<b>ON PARIS.</b>	
Bank Bills, on demand	2 69
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2 74
<b>ON GERMANY.</b>	
On demand	2 18
<b>ON NEW YORK.</b>	
Bank Bills, on demand	—
Credits, 60 days' sight	—
<b>ON BOMBAY.</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	183
Bank, on demand	183½
<b>ON CALCUTTA.</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	183
Bank, on demand	183½
<b>ON SHANGHAI.</b>	
Bank, at sight	72
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
<b>ON YOKOHAMA.</b>	
On demand	par.
<b>ON MANILA.</b>	
On demand	7 ½ pm.
<b>ON SINGAPORE.</b>	
On demand	par.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.18
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	47.50

## TONNAGE.

**SHANGHAI, 17th January** (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Our freight market, homewards, presents a very dull appearance, as is usual at this time of year, and no improvement can be looked for till the close of the Chinese New Year festivities, when it is anticipated business will look up considerably, both for home-going steamers and coasters generally. It is true that the last departure for new year obtained good support here, but it was composed, to a great extent, of cargo for which no sail tonnage could be found, and which was carried at no very lucrative rate, viz: 30s. for tea. Since then rates all round have been lowered for direct steamer to New York, and 30s. per 40 cubic feet for tea and general cargo can be relied upon for the next three steamers. For London via Suez.—Business in this direction is almost lifeless, the amount of tonnage offering being far in excess of shippers' requirements. For New York via Cape.—The sailing vessel *Daniel Barnes* is chartered to load at Hongkong, for end of February sailing, her rate from here being 26s. through. Rates of freight are:—From Shanghai to London by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; New York, general cargo 30s.; tea 30s.; New York via London, general cargo 50s.; tea 50s.; Boston, general cargo 32s. 6d.; Philadelphia, general cargo 40s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London by Shell Line, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 35s. net; New York, general cargo 40s. less 10



